CLAVIS CALENDARIA:

OR. THE

Liturgy - Calendar

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

ENGLAND

Explain'd.

BY

W. C. M. A.

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PREFACE!

Excuses for the publishing this little Manual, as knowing the best in such a Case signific but little before a worthless Tract, and none of any great necessity where the Tract has in it to recommend it self. Of which sort is this in the Readers hands, is left to his Judgment to determine, though if it in some measure answer to what the Title promiseth, it may likely meet with a favourable Reception, Matters relating to the Calendar being frequently discoursed of, but not so generally understood.

In the following Pages is an Account given of the English Computation of the Golden Number, Epast, Cycle of the Sun, and Rules for finding the moveable Feasts, as also an Explanation of all the Feasts and

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Falts

The PREFACE.

Fasts throughout the Years, and of other Saints days placed in the Calendar, prefix'd to the Liturgy of our Church. The moveable Feasts and Fasts are set in their proper Places for this present Year 1700. The Feast's marked with Capital Letters, the Fasts with a Black, and other Saints Days, not Festival, with an Italian Character. I must confess in the Historical Part, there are some things that relish much of the Fable, and seem impossible to be digested but by a Roman Faith; but then are delivered in such a manner, as appears here is no design of imposing on any Man's Belief, and are related rather for their Strangeness than their Truth. As for what is reported as credible, is supported by the Authority of approved Authors; which in particular to cite, would take up more room than the designed brevity of this Trifle would admit.

SECT. I.

Of the English Computation, or Old Stile, and in difference from the New.

HE Annual Computation of the Church of England is according to the Roman Calendar reform'd by Julius Cafar, and is therefore called the

Julian Account. He when Dictator (43 years before the Incarnation) observing the Inconvenience of the Intercalary month (injected when the Priests though sit) year to supply the deficiency of the common year with respect to the Sun, by the affistance of Sosigenes, and other learned Astronomers, calculated a year conformable (as was then thought exactly) to the Sun's tropical Revolution.

This was done (rejecting the intercalary month) by the addition of ten days and fix hours to the former (Numa's) year. The days were thus disposed of, to the months January, July (then Sextile) and December, each

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two; to April, June, September and November, each one. The fix hours were not to be reckon'd till every fourth Year, when they make up an whole day, which day was order'd to be inferted betwixt the 24th and 25th of Febraary; and because the 24th of February is the fixth Calend of March, and this and the intercalary accounted but as one continued day, they are therefore both called Bissexto Calendas Martis: And hence also when this happens, the year is called Bissextile, or Leap-year.

the year is called Bissextile, or Leap-year.

So that by this addition to the former year, which confifted only of 355 days, the Julian year contains 365 days, and fix hours, which has been found too large a space for a folar year, and it is a thing impossible to calculate a year exactly to the Course of the Sun, by reason of its unequal motion from one Point to another; and therefore Astronomers have pitched upon a middle motion of the Sun betwixt its flowest and swiftest angual Revolution, computing it to contain 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, less by 11 minutes than the Julian year; which it mi-nutes in the space of 133 years make up a day; fo that should this middle Tropical and the Julian year begin together at noon, the 10th. of March Anno 1700. in the year 1833. the beginning of the former would happen at noon, on the oth of March of the Julian year. In the year 1966, or after 266 years, it would happen on the 8th of that month, &c. proceeding

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ceeding by 133. According to which difference the Vernal Equinox that fell at the great Council of Nice upon the 21st. of March, was observed in the year 1582. or about 1300 years after, to fall on the 11th of that month; and this gave occasion to the Correction of the Calendar, and the Introduction of a New Stile.

For Gregory XIII. then Pope of Rome, upon observing the year thus far to have gone backward, order'd 10 days to be cut off from the month of October, by calling the 5th day thereof the 15th; and, to obviate the like Inconveniencies for the future, it was then provided, that after the year 1600. in every 400 years succeeding three Bissertiles should be omitted; i. e. in the years 1700, 1800, 1900. but in 2000. and so every Four hundredth year, the Bissertile (as in course) should be retained; because in 399 years (according to this Hypothesis, tho' some will have it somewhat more) the Julian exceeds this middle Tropical year but three days.

So that this present year 1700 which is with us Bissextile, is not so with them which follow the Gregorian Account, or New Stile; and hence their Account which was formerly ten is now eleven days before ours, for the beginning of months, and for all fix'd Festivals, but various (as the Moon) for all moveable Feasts, the greatest distance being five weeks, as it will happen the next year.

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This New Account is observed in all Nations that are in obedience to the See of Rome, and the Old by fuch as have rejected its Authority, excepting Holland and Zealand, and of late the Protestant Churches in the Palatinate; and were it not a feeming compliance with the Pope's Decree, that peremptorily enjoins it to be univerfally observ'd, no doubt other Protestant Countries would have admitted of it, which must be confessed to be far more exact and regular than that we follow: though it would have been a more correct regulation for the observance of Church Festivals had the Year been reduced to the order of heavenly Bodies at our Saviour's Passion, whereas the Correctors went no farther backward than the Council of Nice, A. D. 325.

SECT. IL.

Of Months, Days, &c.

A Month is properly the Space wherein the Moon passeth through the Zodiack, but is also taken for the time of the Sun's passing through the twelfth part of it, and so the one is called a Lunar, the other a Solar month.

A Lunar month is either Periodical, that is, the Space wherein the Moon's moving from

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one Point of the Zodiack returns to the same again, and this is observed to be in 27 days and 8 hours; or Synodical, wherein the Moons departing from Conjunction with the Sun, returns to another Conjunction with it; but this cannot be under 2 days, 4 hours, 44 minutes after its periodical Revolution; for in that time the Sun is carried by its proper motion near one Sign further, so that this month contains 29 days and an half, and is called also the month of Consecution, because the Moon follows to overtake the Sun.

2. A Solar month is the time of the Sun's passing through one Sign of the Zodiack; which motion taken in a mean betwixt its excess and defect, takes up 30 days, 10 hours, and almost a half, which days, &c. multiplied by 12, make up the Solar year, and are unequally distributed amongst the 12 months; which according to the Cycle of the Sun and Moon, and course of Almanacks, are

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1. January, denominated from Janus, first King of the Latines, who for his Prudence and wife Circumspection, is represented with two Faces, the one looking backward on things past, the other forward on things to come; and so January has a twofold reference, to the end of the year past, and to the beginning of the year to come. But some would have it so called from Janua, a Gate; for as by that we enter an

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house, so by this month we enter upon the

year.

2. February, a Februo, to purge by Sacrifice, because then the Romans offered Sacrifice to Phuto, and the Infernal Gods, for the Souls of their Ancestors. These two months were added by Numa to Romulus's year, which having but 104 days consisted but of Ten Months, beginning with,

3. March, fo called from Mars his suppo-

fed Father.

4. April, Qu. Appril, from the Greek expres, Froth, from whence Venu is reported to proceed, or else ab aperiendo, because at this time the Pores of the Earth open, and all things begin to grow.

5. May, à Majoribus, the Elder.

of. June, a Junioribus, the Younger; for into thesetwo sorts were the People of Rome at first divided, and from both were denominated these two months, as appears from that of Ovid.

Hine sua majores tribuerunt nomina Majo. Junius à juvenum nomine dictus adest.

7. July changed from Quintilis to this Name, in honour of Julius Cafar, who is faid to be born on the fourth of the Ides of this month.

8.1 August, so called, in honor of Augustus Casar, which before was Sexille, because

cause the fixth month from March, with which the year did at first begin; and so 9 September, 10 October, 11 November, and 12 of December, were thus named, because the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th months distant from March.

As for the number of days belonging to each Month there was fome alteration made by Augustus Casar since the Julian Correction, but fince his time have continued in

this order in the following Verses.

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Triginta Aprilis, Junius, Septema; Novema; Uno plus alii, viginti Februus Olto; At si Bissextus fuerit superadditur unus, Et tunc Bissexto Marti conscribe Calendas.

The English of which is found in this old Rhyme:

Thirty days bath September, April, June, and November, February bath Eight and twenty alone, And all the rest have Thirty and one; But when of Leap-year cometh the time, Then days bath February Twenty nine.

These days of each month were by the Romans divided into three Denominations, viz. Calends, Nones, and Ides, and which 'till of late were in use in our English Catendar_

1. The Calends are always the first day of every month from which the days of the month preceding are accounted backward, as the 31st of December is called pridie Calendas Januarii, (the Preposition ante being understood) the 30th Tertio Calendas, the 20th Quarto Calendas, &c. in this numerical order, as far as the Calends reach. They have their name from the Greek καλῶ to call, because the Fontifex minor on the first day of every month did call an Assembly of the People, and notifie to them what Feasts were to be observed in the month.

2. Nones begin at the Ides, and end with the Calends, and are reckoned as the Calends are, pridie nonarum, tertio nonarum, &c. They are so called, as some imagine, from the word Non, because during this time no day was dedicated to the Gods. Nonarum.

tutela Deo Caret, &c. Ovid.

3. Ides are placed in the middle of the month betwixt the Calends and Nones, dividing it into two Parts, and from hence have their Denomination, the old Latin word Iduo, fignifying to divide. These are of an equal number, viz. eight in each month; but for the Nones in May, March, July, and October, are six, and all the rest are the Calends, as is expressed in the sollowing Verses.

Principium mensis nostri dixere Calendas. Sex Maius Nonas October, Julius & Mars, Quatuor at reliqui, tenet Idus quilibet octo.

SECT. III.

Of the Golden Number.

THE Golden Number, called also Decemnovennalis Circulus, the Prime Cycle of the Moon, and Annus Metonicus (from Metho its first Inventor) is a periodical Revolution of 19 years, in which space ancient. Astronomers thought that the Sun and Moon return'd to the same Aspects they were at 19 years before, and was therefore received into the Church by the Fathers of the Nicene Council, for finding out the Changes of the Moon for a due Observation of Easter. But this has been since discovered to be an erroneous Rule, there being an anticipation of an hour and near half, so that that Lunation which happens in any month this present year, in nineteen years hence will fall an hour and half fooner, by which account the Error fince the Nicene Council has encreafed to above four days. This Golden Number is placed in the first Column in our Liturgy-Calendar, where you may find the mistake. For Example. This This present year 1700. the Golden Number is 10, which I find in the month January to stand against the 14th day, upon which (according to this Rule) the Moon should change; whereas this Year, the New Moon falls on the 10th of this month. See more in the Feast of Easter.

It was called the Golden Number, as some think from that excellent use it was thought to be of, or more probably because written in Rubrick or Golden Letters in the Calendar. To find it any year, add to the year of our Lord 1; which divide by 19, and the remainder is the Golden Number for that

year.

SECT. IV.

Of the Epast.

THE Epact is a number of 11 days, by which the common Solar year of 365 days exceeds the common Lunar of 354; and therefore 11 days every year being added to make them equal, are called the Epact from the Greek word ἐπάρω intercalo, addo, &c.

But observe when the number exceeds 30, to substract 30, and the remainder is the Epast for that year, because from one change of the Moon to another there can be but 30

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wi Ni days. For Example: The Epall this prefent year 1700. is 20, to which 11 added the next year make 31, from which 30 deducted there remains one, which is the Epall for the year 1701. So that the Epall proceeds with a continual encrease every year of eleven days substracting 30 where they can be substracted.

Only when you come to the great Intercalation, or last *Epast* 29, answering the Golden Number 19, there must be added 12 days to make up a number 41, that 30 from thence rejected, the *Epast* may be, as

at the first, 11.

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o, ne ge To find the Epall for ever, multiply the Golden Number for the year proposed, by 11. dividing the Product by 30, and the remainder is the number of the Epall: Or observe the ensuing Table; and when the years of our Lord are therein expired, place 1719 where is 1700, and you have both the Golden Number and Epall for ever.

A.D.	1710	711	1712	1713	1734	715	715	17.7	1718	700	1701	70
Prime	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Epact	11	22	3	14	25	6	17	28	9	20	I	12
A.D.	1703	704	705	1706	707	708	1709				1	
Prime	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	1		-	1	
Epact	23	4	15	26	7	18	29	1		-	1	

SECT. V.

Of the Cycle of the Sun, and Dominical Letter.

THE Cycle of the Sun is a Revolution of 28 years, wherein the Dominical, or Sunday-Letters, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, make all their feveral changes: But they are to be reckoned in a retrograde order; so that if this year the Sunday-Letter be F, in the next year it will be E, according to the Verse: Gaudet Francus Equo, Danus Cane, Barbarus Arcu. Were there no Leapyear, those Letters would be run through in seven years; but because of Bissextile every 4th year, when there are two Dominical Letters, one ferving till St. Matthias's Day, the other for the rest of the year, they take not all their Turns under 28 years. And note, that the Dominical Letter and Golden Number change the first of January, and the Epast the first of March.

A Table shewing the Cycle of the Sun, and Dominical Letter for ever, placing 1728 where is 1700, &c.

A. Dom.	1700	1701	1702	1703	1704	1705	1706	707	1708	1709	1710	711	1712	171
Ocycle.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	II	12	13	14
D.Letter	GF	E	D	C	BA	G	F	E	DC	В	A	G	FE	D
A. Dom.	1714	1715	7 6	17 7	17.8	20	1720	721	1722	1723	724	1725	1726	172
D.Letter	C	В	AG	F	E	D	CB	A	G	F	ED	c	В	A

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Two Tables whereby to find all the moveable Feasts in the Church of England for ever.

Table 1.

	0	1	2	3	4	51	6
Prime	0 4 8 6 0 8 6 0 7 0 8 7 9 8 6 9 7 6 9 7 0	B 8 6 9 7 6 9 7 0 8 7 9 8 6 9 7 6 8 7 0	4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	10 10 0 0 10 0 10 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	4 E 76 97 5 8 7 98 6 97 68 7 58 7 9	5 F 7 6 8 7 5 8 8 9 9 8 8 9 7 8 8 7 5 8 8 9	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
1	8	8	8	8	7	7	7
2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
3	9	9	9	9	9	8	8
4	8	7	7	7	7	7	7
5	6	6	6	6	5	5	5
6	9	9	8	8	8	8	8
7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6
8	10	10	10	9	9	9	9
9	8	8	8	8	8	8	7
10	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
12	8	8	8	7	7	7	7
19	6	6	6	6	6	6	5
14	9	9	9	9	8	8	6
15	7	_7	7	7	7	7	7
16	6	6	6	5	5	5	5
17	9	8	8	8	8	8	8
18	7	7	7	7	7	6	6
19	10	10	9	91	9	9	9

Table

Table 2.

	val- ninu k-days	Qui d.	Eafter- day.	Sunda y		White Sunday.	Advent junday	maju
5 5 5 6	5 6 0	8 Feb.	23 Mar. 23 24 25 26	26 Ap. 27 28 39	30 Ap.	10 May 11 12 13	Dec.	27 27 27 27
6 6 6 6	3 4	14 15 16	37 28 29 30	1 May.	5 6 7 8 9	15 16 17 18	27 No. 28 29 30 1 Dec.	26 26 26 36 26
6 6 6 6 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 8 8 8 8	6 0 1 2 3	18 19 30 21	t April.	6 7 5 9	10 11 12 13	20 21 22 23 24	2 3 27 No. 28 29	26 26 25 25 25
7 7 7 8 8	5 6 0	23 24 25 26 27	6 7 8 9	11 12 13 14	16 17 18	26 27 28	1 De (2 3 27 No	25 25 25 25 25 24
8 8 8	3 4 5 6	a S t Mar. 2 3	12 12 14 15	16 17 18 19	20 21 22 23 24	30 31 1 June 2	28 29 30 Dec.	24 24 24 24 24 24
9 9 9	2 3 4	5 6 7 8	16 17 18 19	31 22 23 24 25	35 26 27 28 29	4 5 6 7 8	3 37 No- 28 29	24 23 23 23 23
9 lo lo lo	5 6 0 1 2	10 11 12 13	21 22 23 34	26 27 28 29 30	30 31 1 June.	10 11 12 13	1 Dec. 2 3 27 No. 28	23 23 22 22

he of The first shews the distance betwixt Christmas day and Quinquagesima, called Intervallum minus; where first look for the Golden Number descending on the first Column on the left hand, till you come under the Dominical Letter (which in Bissextile must be the latter) for the proposed year, where you will find in the common Angle the number of Weeks, and over the Sunday Letter the number of Days, the space betwixt Christmas and Shrove Sunday.

For Example.

In the Year 1701 the Golden Number is In and the Dominical E. find therefore II. in the first row under Prime, then proceed on the right hand till you come under E. where you will find 9 weeks and over E4 days, and this shows that from Christmas to Quinquagesima Sunday is o weeks and 4 days. which Intervallum minus being found look for the same in the second Table, in the first Column on the left hand, over against which are placed the moveable Feasts in order as written in the Front of the Table, and there you will find over against 9 weeks and 4 days Quadragesima to fall on the o of March, Easterday the 20 of April, Rogation Sunday, May 25 Ascension, May 29. White Sunday, June 8. Advent Sunday, Nov. 30. and laftly Intervallum majus or the distance betwixt Trinity Sunday and Advent 23 weeks, which is the true stating of the moveable Feasts for the next year.

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Of the Fasts and Festivals, moveable and immoveable in the Church of England, and other remarkable Days in the Calendar; beginning with January.

January bath 31 Days.

CIRCUMCISION, The year begins with the Feast of our Lord's Circumcision, being the 8th day from his Nativity, as the Law provided, by which he was made under the Law to deliver us from the Curse of it.

This Feast was first observed as the Octave of the Nativity, the Primitive Christians keeping solemn the Eighth day from any great Festival, that they might not come short of the Jews Devotion, who according to the Precept, Lev. 23. 26. were obliged to do so; and hence in our Communion Office, the proper Prefaces for Christmas-day and Ascension, are appointed to be used 7 days after the said Feasts. This Feast under the name of Circumcision was observed, if not sooner, in the 11th Century.

It is called New-years-day from the old Account of the Romans, who began their Computation of the year from

the Calends of January.

EPIPHANT, The word fignifies Apparition, or Manifestation, and is kept chiefly in memory of the appearance of a Star manifesting Christ to the wife Men. Of old the day of the Nativity, or the Manifestation of Christ in the Flesh, was by the Greek Church kept at this time, and under the name of Epiphany, till they received more light in the Case from the Churches of the West, who always kept them as two distinct Feasts; and this latter for a threefold Caufe, for three manifestations of our Saviour upon this day, though not in the same year, and therefore used to be called Epiphania in the Plural, and by some distinguished into Epiphania, Theophania, and Bethphania. Epiphamia, from the appearance of a Star manifesting Christ to the Gentiles, as before. Theophania, from the manifestation of the whole Trinity at our Saviour's Baptism, when the Three Persons did sensibly manifest themselves, the Father in the Voice from Heaven, the Son in the Flesh in the River Fordan, and the Holy Ghoff the

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in the Shape of a Dove. Bethphania from the manifestation of his divine Glory by his first Miracle in the House of Marriage in Cana when he turn'd Water into Wine. It is called in some places the Feast of Kings, because it was believed that the three Wife Men that came from the East to adore our Saviour were three Kings of Arabia, which indeed is East from Jerusalem, and it is said in the 72 Pfalm, The Kings of Arabia Shall bring Gifts, according to which is the following diffich.

Tres reges regi regum tria dona ferebant, Myrrbam bomini uncto aurum thura de-

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These wise Men or Magi, were afterwards called the three Kings of Collen, because their Bodies after several translations are reported to rest there, which the Monks of that place much boast of and pretend to shew to Strangers their Tombs, to which are fastned Tables wherein the History of them is inscribed. From the story of those Kings came the custom of chusing King and Queen upon this day.

I SUNDAY after EPIPPHANY. This and the following Sundays to Septuagesima are of an uncertain number.

according

according to the quantity of Interval-lum minus, or distance from Christmas to Shrove-tide, being at the most 6, and when Easter falleth soonest there is but 1. They have nothing more remarkable above other Sundays; but here I shall take occasion to fay fomething of the weekly Festival of the Church, the Lord's day. is undoubtedly the most ancient Feast in the Christian Church, and succeeded the Jewish Sabbath soon after our Saviour had put an end to it by his Sabbath in the Grave. Dominicus dies Christi resurrectione declaratus est Christianis, & ex illo capit babere festivitatem fuam, (faith St. Austine Ep. 119.0.13.) The Lord's day by the Refurrection of Christ was declared to be the Christians day, and from that time began to be celebrated as the Christians Festival. And though the Feasts of the Nativity and Easter are very ancient, yet the weekly Commemoration of Christ's Resurrection, whereby was finished the great work of Man's Redemption was undoubtedly the first. The Texts to prove it of Apostolical Institution are these, Alt. 20. 7. 1 Cor. 11. 20. 16. 2. Apoc. 1. 10. and though it was substituted in the room of the Jewish Sabbath now to be laid alide. re

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aside, yet in the Eastern Church, where Converts from Judaism were very numerous, the Saturday Sabbath was a long time observed together with the Lord's day, and others that were better instructed in Christian Liberty. did in compliance with those weak Christians keep the Sabbath as a day for Religious Worship, though to vindicate themselves from compliance with Judaism declared, they did it only in a Christian way, and to worthip Christ the Lord of the Sabbath; but this Judaizing did not last long, and in most of the Western Churches the Saturday was observed as a Fast, but the Lord's day never in any Church till of late amongst some modern Reformers of Antiquity, who will hardly allow former times any degree of Wisdom in goodness; though in an ancient Book ascribed to St. Ignatius there is this fevere Censure of 'em. who soever fasts on the Lord's day is a murderer of Christ. It is called Sunday because the Day dedicated by the Heathens to the Sun, and is often mentioned by the ancient Fathers under that name.

a Lucian. This Man was a Priest and Disciple of St. Peter, sent with Diob nysius Arcopagita to preach the Gospel

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in

22 Feafts, &c. in January.

to c in France, and was there Martyr'd, about the year 74. as Bede and others

nt d testifie. There is another Lucian mentioned by Baronius, that was Priest

12 e of Antioch, that suffered Martyrdom under Maximian, A. D. 311.

of the Church, and Bishop of Poisson

14 G in France, the first of the Latins that wrote against the Arrian Heresy, by

a which he acquired a great Reputation, of whom Paschasius in his Icones hath

16 b these Verses.

17 c Et nos exhilaras, Hilari Sanctissime pra-(ful, Et monitis victa est Arria secta tuis.

He died in the year 369.

18 d Prisca, A Virgin that suffered Martyrdom at Rome under Claudius the 2d.

A. D. 279.

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f Fabian. At the Election of a Bishop of Rome 'tis reported a Dove appear'd over this Fabian's Head, which was looked on as a miraculous designation of him to the Chair, and was accordingly chosen. He is said to ordain Notaries to Register the Acts of Martyrs, and to Baptize the Emperor Fbish and his Son, both which were soon cut off by Decius that succeeded, who

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who raised the 7th and cruel Persecution against the Christians, in which suffered this Holy Bishop, as did Babylas at Antioch, and innumerable others. To avoid the fury of this Tyrant 7 young Men are reported to hide themselves in a Cave at Ephesus, and there miraculously slept till the Reign of Theodosius for 300 years, thinking it but one Night, and in the Church of Rome are remembred by the name of the 7 Sleepers. This Bishop was Martyr'd in the year 250.

Agnes, a Beautiful Virgin of Rome, that to preserve her Faith and Chastity suffered Martyrdom at 12 years old, whom the Fathers in their Books and Sermons do highly extoll. This was in the 10 Persecution under Dio-

clesian about the year 304.

22 a Vincent, a Spanish Deacon that was put to death by the most exquisite
23 b Torments the cruelty of Dacius Pre24 c fect of Tarraconia could inflict. He

24 c feet of Tarraconia could inflict. H fuffered under Dioclesian Anno 303.

CONVERSION of St. PAUL, The History of which Conversion we have Als 9. and this day is kept in memory thereof, for the great Miracle of it, and the great benefit thereby accrewing to the Church. His Travels and Acts we have Registred by his B₂ Disciple

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Disciple and Companion St. Luke, to his first Imprisonment at Rome, from which, at the end of two years, being released he travelled abroad, planting and confirming Churches for two years, and then returned to Rome where for converting amongst others, Nero's Cup-bearer and Concubine was beheaded by the Sword of that bloody Tyrant, A. D. 66. in the 62d. year of his age. He was put to death in a place called Aqua Salvia, and buried in the Via Ostiensis, where since a e magnificent Church was erected in honour of him. He left behind him 13 Epistles that bear his Name, befides that to the Hebrews generally allowed to be his, though the want of

his Name to it, which is prefixt to the rest, has occasion'd some to dispute 18 it, and was anciently ascribed to St. Luke, and Clemens, and Barnabas by several in the Primitive times; but 'tis thought he prudently concealed his Name because the believing Jews 27 f had an antipathy against him, neither was he properly their Apostle,

This last Epistle is said to be written in the Hebrew Tongue, but some contend it was Originally written in Greek. Besides these 14 Epistles re- 29

ceived into the Canon of Scripture, other

Feafts, &c. in January.

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other Writings have gone under his Name, as an Epistle to the Laodiceans, a 3d Epistle to the Thessalans, a 3d to the Corinthians, a 2d to the Ephessalans, an History of his own Acts, Letters to Seneca, &c. rejected as spurious in a Council at Rome, A.D. 494. This day by some is accounted Critical, as if it be Serene it denotes Plenty, if Windy War and Tumult, if Cloudy Sickness, if there happen Snow or Rain a Dearth the current year, as is expressed in the following Rhithms.

Clara dies Pauli bona tempora denotat Anni, Si fuerint venti designant pralja genti, Si fuerint nebula peream anima fueq; Si nix si Pluvia designant tempora cara.

find no mention of this and the two following Sundays till the time of Gregory the Great. Bede and Alcuirus say, that some added a Week to the Quadragesimal Fast and called it Quinquagesima; others that would not fast on Thursdays, and yet observe the whole number of days, added another Week and called it Sexagesima, and lastly others that would neither fast on Thursdays nor Saturdays added yet another and called it Septuagesima:

B. 3

But:

But this feems very unlikely that for the humour of fome few there should be find as I of interest.

be fuch an Institution.

Some will have Septuagesima so called from the number of days, because from this Sunday there are 70 days to Low Sunday Eve, from Sexagefima 60 to the Wednesday after Easter, and from Quinquagesima just so to Easter; but this opinion feems very abfurd, for every Sunday might be called Septuagesima if we number 70 days, and have we better reason for their termination ? Belides fuch as are of this opinion fay, that by those 70 days is fignified our Spiritual Bondage (of which the 70 years Babylonish Captivity was a Type) and fo Easter, a day of perfect Liberty, would be included amongst them which is very abfurd.

Others say that these Sundays are denominated from their distance from Easter, but by a Synecdoche, for from Septuagesima to Easter are near 70 days, i.e. 64, &c. But this reason is of little weight, because 64 may more properly be called Sexagesima as nearer to it.

Others with greater probability fay, that the Church Instituted 7 remarkable Sundays before Passion Sun-

day, to remind us of our Spiritual Captivity, as by this and the Sunday following is commemorated our Redemption from it, and therefore the first of these was called Septuagesima, the 2. Sexagefima, &c. Lastly to end these tedious Conjectures, that which I think the most likely is this, that these Sundays are so call'd a Consequentia numerandi. The first Sunday in Lent being called Quadragesima becanse about 40 days from Easter; the Sunday before that being farther from it is called Quinquagesima five being the next number above four, and fo the same reason for the other two.

K. Charles I. Warter. This is an unfortunate day in the English Calendar, Hac est ista dies nigro carbone notanda, a day of trouble, of rebuke and blasphemy. It was the custom of the ancient Church to celebrate the days of Martyrs with great joy and festivity, calling the days on which they suffered their Natalitia or Birthdays in which they were born again into the Joys of Eternity; but the great guilt this execcrable Murther of the best of Kings brought upon the c English Nation, and the great Infamy

31 and Reproach it exposed our Nation and Religion to, are black Clouds

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that have overcast this day and made it a day of Fasting and Mourning, not to bewail this Royal Martyr, whose loss is recompenced with a never fading Crown, but to weep for our Country stained with his Innocent and Royal Blood, and to deprecate the vengeance of it, that it may not be required of us or our Posterity...! Sepidum casult.

SECT. VII.

Of the Fasts, Feasts, &c. in February.

February bath 29 Days.

Taft. It was a custom in the Primitive Church for the People to continue together in Watching and Prayer the Night preceeding a Festival, to fit themselves for a more solemn observance of it; at length those nocturnal Watchings and Vigils being abused by the Wickedness of some, and Leudness and Intemperance committed under the pretence of Devotion; those Vigils were thereupon forbidden, and only fasting retained on those days;

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days; though still they are called Vigils as well as Fasts; but from Christmas to Epiphany there are none appointed, because times of great Joy and Festivity, nor from Easter to Pentecost for the like reason, neither before the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, because they did not as the Saints did by Mortification and Afflictions pass to Felicity, which is sitly represented by the Evening Fast and the Morning Joy that succeeds.

PURIFIC ATION. A Feast in memory of the Blessed Virgin's being cleansed from her Mosaical Impurity. 111 Not that she contracted any Impurity ... by Child-birth, but the Word Impurity is used by such a Scriptural Catachresis, as only to signific the Yoke or Obligation that by the Law of Moses

was fastned on her.

This day was also called the Feast of Presentation, because our Saviour was on this day presented in the Temple to the Lord. In the Churches of the East it was usually called Hypapante from the interview and meeting betwixt our Saviour and good old Symeon. Lastly, it was called Candiemas, or the Feast of Lights, from a custom of Consecrating Candies and going with them in Processian

B 5

fion.

fion in commemoration of that divin 3 f Light with which our Saviour illuminated his Church at his Presentation, when old Symeon called him a Light to lighten the Gentiles, as also in memory of the wife Virgins (of whom the Bleffed Virgin is the chief) that went to meet their Lord with their Lamps light and burning; and from this usage and from the many Lights this day fet up in the Church: It is called Candelaria or Candlemas, as St. Ber-The reason why the nard speaks. word Mass is added to this and some other Feafts, is because in the time of our Ancestors high Mass used to be fung upon those days. This Feast of Purification began to be celebrated the latter end of the 4th Century. also one of the critical days, that if it be fair and shining it portends (according to some fagacious People) that the greatest part of Winter is yet to come, as in the following Verses,

> Si Sol splendescat Maria Purissicante, Major erit glacies post festum quam suit (ante.

G SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY, The first of the six Sundays from Passion a Sunday, or the second from Quadrage-

sima. Vide Jan. 28.

Agatha,

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Feasts, &c. in February.

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b Agatha, A Sicilian Virgin, whose c Chastity in vain attempted by Quindianus the President was the sooner e condemned to suffer for her Faith. f She was Martyr'd under the Emperor Decius, A. D. 252.

QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY, the first of the five Sundays to Passion

a Sunday, or the next to Quadragesima. Shrove Teufday, Its name is derived from the Saxon word Shrive, which fignifies to confess, from a custom for the People on this day to confess their Sins to a Priest, in order to a more pious observance of the ensuing Lent. But now amongst the Papists is a time of great Licenciousness and Diforder: They then finish their Carnaval, or a farewel to Flesh, which begins fome weeks before, in which they revive the old Bacchanalian Solers nity, and act like mad Men in Mafquerade; which in the times of Popery was not allowed of in England, but prohibited on pain of Death, as Polydore Virgil teltifies. (De invent. rer. lib. q. c. 2.) The leud and frantic Revelling upon this day, and the Ceremony of Sprinkling Ashes on the next, gave occasion to a Turkish Envoy at Venice to relate (amongst his other curious Observations in that City City, that the Christians had a fort of Ashes which strown upon the Head presently cures Madness, for, says he, the People that I saw go up and down the Streets in all appearance stark mad, the next day by a few Ashes cast on their Heads were suddenly cured and restored to their Wits again.

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agum.

Athwonefoay, This is Caput jejunij, or the first day of Lent, being from hence to the Feast of Easter, Sundays excepted (in which it was never the custom of the Church to Fast) just 40 days. It is called Ashwednesday from a custom (still in use in the Church of Rome) for the Priest to sprinkle Ashes on the Head of the People, with this Admonition of their Mortality, Memento bomo quod cinis es, & in cinerem reverteris. Remember man that thou art but dust, and to dust shalt thou return; which Pope Boniface the VIII. (Author of the Jubile) once forgetting or rather remembring some ill Offices of Porchet Arch-bishop of Geneva, in fiding with the Gibeline Faction against him, threw these consecrated Ashes in his Eyes, with this alteration of the form, Memento homo quod Gibelinus es, & cum Gibelinis in cinerem reverteris. This used to be a day of extraordinary Humiliation, and

Feasts, &c. in February. 33

and a time of Publick Penance for notorious Offenders. It appears to be observed under the name of *Dies Ci*nerum, or Ashwednesday, the beginning of of the fifth Century.

4 c Valentine is also remembred on the 14th of this Month, who was Bishop of Interanna in Ombria, and suffered

about the year 270. where Theodorus

Primus afterwards built a Church in

16 e memory of him; his excellent Charity gave occasion to the custom of choosing of Valentines on this day, i. e.

f for Men and Women to make choice of Friends for the enfuing Year.

the first Sunday of the Lent Fast, which is 40 days kept in imitation of our Saviours fasting so long in the Desart. This Fast is of great Antiquity in the Church, though probably at its first Institution not of so long continuance as now it is; and 'tis the opinion of

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19 a fome that it was at first called Quadragesima for a Fast only of 40 hours, the time from our Saviours Death to his Resurcation. However very early it encreased to and was universally ob-

20 b ferved for 40 days. It is called Lent {
from the Saxon word Lend, fignifying
the Spring in which it is always kept.
This

This Sunday is also called Invocavit, from that out of the 91. Psalm ver. 15. used to be sung on this day, Invocabit me & ego exaudiam eum, He shall call upon me and I will bear bim, &c.

by some derived from humper qu.days of fasting xar' ito xin others from an ancient custom of eating nothing in those days but Cakes baked under Embers or Ashes, called Panem subcineritium or Ember Bread. There be

d four of those Ember or fasting Weeks called in Latin Jejunia quatuor temporum, being the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday next after Ashwednesday, Pentecost, Holy Cross, or September 14. St. Lucy's day, or December 13. as in this distich is express'd.

Post Cineres, Pentec. Post Crucem Posta; [Luciam, Mercurij, Veneris, Sabbathi jejunia siant.

The reason of their Institution was chiefly for a successful Ordination of Ministers, solemnized always on the Sunday following those Embers; whereas before the stated time of Ordination was only in December. The antiquity of these Fasts is very great, Instituted as some hold by Calixtum that

that was Bishop of Rome A. D. 221. St. MATHIAS. Seeing in Biffextile this and the following day next are accounted as one, it has been questioned by some whether on both or on which of them this Feast ought to be kept, a Question proposed to Pope Alexander the III. who determin'd it to be kept but upon one day, but on which of the two was left to the custom of the place, though now it is ordered in the Roman Rubrick on the 25th, and fo it was for the most part anciently obferv'd as appears by the old Monkish Distich, neglecting quantity for the fake of Rhithme.

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Bissextum sextæ Martis tenuere Calendæ Posteriore die celebrato sesta Mathiæ.

But by an order of the late A. B. Sancroft it is to be kept in the Church of England on the 24th day, though I think that order not generally observ'd.

This Mathias before he was elected an Apostle in the room of Judas, is supposed to be one of the 70 Disciples, and by some thought to be that Nathaniel our Saviour commends, Joh. 1. 47. After the Feast of Penterost there is no more mention of him

him in Scripture. One tradition is, that he Preach'd the Gospel in Athopia and Colchis, and was there Martyr'd A.C. 45. Another that he continued for the most part in Palestine, and there shortly after the Martyrdom of St. James first Bishop of Jerusalem, was stoned to death about the Year 66. His Feast is kept in the Greek Church on the 9th of August.

25 F) REMINISCERE, So called from g the beginning of the Antiphony in Pf. 27 a 25. Reminiscere miserationum, Remember

28 h Lord, thy tender Mercies, &c.

29 0

SECT. VIII.

Of the Feafts, Fasts, &c. in March.

March bath 31 Days.

ST. David, This Man was a NobleBritain, Son of Xantus a Prince of
Wales, and Uncle to the Renowned
King Arthur; but was begotten on a
Nun, whose Birth is said to be Prophesied of 30 years before; he was
very samous for great Learning and
Austerity of Life, and succeeded his
Praceptor Duritius in the Arch-Bishoprick

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shoprick of Caerleon, an ancient City in Monmouthshire, from the ruins of which Newport there arose: For the conveniency of a retired Life, or to avoid the fury of the Saxons, he removed his See from this to & folitary place in Pembrook (hire called Menevia, but afterwards from him St. David's, and by the Welsh Tui Devi. is the Welshman's Patron Saint, and they use on this day to wear a Leek in their Hats, perhaps in memory of his abstinence and ascetick Life, who used to feed upon fuch Herbs; or as some relate it, from a memorable victory they obtained over the Saxons, when they wore as a Military Enfign Leeks in their Hats, by the advice of this their Metropolitan. Incredible Miracles are reported of this Man, as that from his Bleffing the Waters of Bath received their Sanative Vertue; that one day Preaching to the People in an open Field the ground afcended from under him, and lifted him above his Auditory, and feveral others that will scarce be believ'd, and therefore not worth the relation. He is faid to live 146 years. and dyed A. D. 642.

e Chad, This Man was Bishop of Lichfield in the time of the Saxon Heptarcby, under Wulphere King of Mercia, but was before Confecrated Archbishop of York, in the room of Wilfride, who going to France for Confecration to that See, and staying too long there, this Chad was prevailed upon to take his place, which at his return he resigned, and retired a while to the Monastery of Lestingea, Founded by his Brother Cedd Bishop of London; at last was made Bishop of Lichfield, sate there two years and a half, dyed and was there buried, A. D. 672. That Cathedral Church is called by his Name.

F OCULI, So is called the 3d Sunday in Lent from the Antiphony sung on

this day, beginning at Pf. 25. 14.0culi

6 b looking unto the Lord.

7 c Perpetua, A Virgin of Mauritania, 8 d that suffered Martyrdom under the

e Emperor Severus, in the 6th Persecution, A. D. 200.

F. L. ET ARE, This Sunday is so called from the entrance of the 10th verse of the 66 Chapter of Isaiab, Letan cum Jerusalem, Rojoyce ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with ber, &c. We call it Midlent Sunday for an apparent reason. In the Church of Rome it is called Dominica de Rosa, from a Golden Rose

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Rose at that time Consecrated, and g carried by the Pope in the view of the People, as an emblem of Joy and Refreshment, in the midst of Lens severity, which Rose with a great deal of Ceremony is atterwards given to some great Prince. It was likewise called Dominica de Panibus, from the Miracle of the Five Loaves with which our Saviour sed Five thousand Men.

a A. D. 560. and for his great Learning, Piety and Performances was surnamed the Great. He was the first of the Popes that stiled himself Servus

b fervorum Dei, refused the title of Universal Bishop, profer'd him by a Synod at Chalcedon, alledging that none of his Predecessors had used it, and enveighs sharply against John of Couch with the for officiary it willing.

c Constantinople for assuming it, calling it in his Epistles, Temerarium & sultum vocabulum, perversum, superstitiosum, profanum, &c. a rash and a foolish
Name, a proud and pompous Title,
Perverse, Superstitious, Wicked and

Profane; a name of Error, Hypocrifie and Blasphemy; a puff of Arrogance and Pride; which hard words
did not frighten his Successor Boniface
the 3d from accepting it from the

vile Regicide Phocas, though at the

40\$

price of Pimping to Murther and Affassination. This Gregory purpos'd to go in person and preach the Gospel to the Pagan Saxons in this Land, but the People of Rome would not part with fo good a Man; but foon after he became Bishop sent hither Austine and 40 others on the employment, and dyed in the year 604.

PASSION SUNDAY, So called from the Churches Commemorating of our Lord's Passion on this day, which shortly after was undergone; 'tiselfo called Judica, from the Antiphony beginning with this in the 35 Pfalm, Judica & discerne, Judge and

discern my Cause O God.

Edward King of the West Saxons or 18 g rather of all England (that branch of the Heptarchy, having long before his time overtop'd the rest and brought them in subjection) He was

Crowned at Kingston upon Thames by Dunstane A.B. of Cant. at 12 years old; but happening to hunt in the Isle of Purbeck, and making a visit to his Step-mother Queen Elphred, and Brother in Law Prince Etbelred at Corf

b Caftle, was there stabb'd by that cruel Woman to make way for her Son to the Crown. He is commonly called Edward the Martyr, but for what reason e

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is not easy to imagine; but 'tis said Miracles were afterwards wrought at his Tomb, which procured him to be Canonized by Pope John the 19th. 20 years after his Death, which happened in the year 979. in the 16th year of his Age; his Body was interr'd at Winchester, and after his Canonization translated to the Minster of Shafts-bury.

c Benedict, This was an Italian Abbot that gather'd the Monks of Italy together, and caused them to live under a Rule and Order of his own de-

d vifing, and from him were called Boneditions, with which he faw twelve Monasteries filled before his Death; which afterwards encreased to an in-

23 e credible number, and from this Order sprang the Clugnians, Carthusians, Cistertians, Calistines, &c. He

dyed about the year 554.

A # PALM-SUNDAY, In Latine Dominica invanis palmarum, kept in memory of our Saviour's triumphant entrance into Jerufalem, when the People attended him with Hosannahs and strewed his way with Boughs or Branches of Palm: It is called Dominica magna, and the ensuing Week Hebdomada magna, or the great Week, for the great work of Redemption then sinished, and

and the great Devotion and Fasting at this time.

ANNUNCIATION. This is a Feast 25 g in memory of the Angel Gabriel's annunciating or declaring to the Bleffed Virgin the Divine Conception of our Saviour. 'Tis called Lady-day from the Person to whom this Embassy was made, viz. Mary (an Hebrew word for Lady) the Mother of Christ the

Lord. On this day begins the Year in the Church of England, reckoning not from the Nativity, as in France and other Countries, but the Incarnation, when the Word was made Flesh, And note that this way of reckoning from the Year of our Lord began not in the Christian Church till Anno 532. in the time of the Emperor Justinian

b the First, and was calculated by Dionysius Exiguus, and from him called Era Dionysiana. Before England as other Christian Countries counted by Olympiads, or the spaces of five Years, till Constantine the Great, and from him to the Dionysian Epoch by Indicti-

ons or 15 Years. Maundy Thursday, This was the day on which our Saviour instituted the Bleffed Eucharist, and washed his

Disciples Feet, commanding them to do likewise, as also to love one another:

ther; hence Maunday, qu. Mandatum or Mandate Thursday; with respect to which Command it was an ancient custom on this day to Celebrate the Sacrament of our Lord's Supper, and to admit to it fuch Penitents as were excluded the beginning of Lent; as also for Bishops and other great Perfons, in imitation of our Saviour to wash the Peoples Feet; before which Ceremony was fung the Antiphony, Mandatum novum do vobis, A new Commandment give I unto you, that you love one another, Joh. 13. 34. In the Court of England there is an ancient Custom still continued for the Lord Almoner on this day to give to as many old Men as the King is Years of Age, to each two Purses, in the one as many fingle Pence as the King is Years old, in the other twenty Shillings; as also two yards of Broad-Cloath for a Coat, four yards of Linen for a Shirt, new Shoes and Stockings, a Salt Cod, two dozen of Herrings, and a Bowl of Wine, besides a plentiful Dinner.

Good friday, This is the day of our Lord's Passion in which was finished the good work of Man's Redemption on the Cross; but because for our Transgressions he was smitten, and our Sins the cause of all the Torments he this

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day suffered, it is therefore a day of Sorrow, and accordingly consecrated by the Church to strict Fasting and ex-

traordinary Devotion.

dum, this is the middle time betwirt the days of Grief and Joy, the Apostles spending this in great sorrow and heaviness whilst our Saviour remain'd in the Grave, hence the Church ordain'd this also as an extraordinary Fast. In the Church of Rome this and the two former days are called days of tenebra or Darkness, from a Ceremony of extinguishing their Lights whereby to represent the Darkness that attended our Lord's Passion.

EASTER DAY, The word Easter is Saxon, and as Bede testifieth comes from Gofter or Eoster a Goddess the Saxons worthiped in the fpring time wherein this beaft was afterwardskept; but most derive it from the Word East, one of Christs Titles, as in the Prophet, bis Name shall be called East, and as the material Sun ariseth from the East, so the Son of Righteonsness this day atose from the Dead. The antiquity of this Feast is very ancient, and was observed in the Apostles days by the name of the Christian Poffover, as appears from that of St. Paul I Cor.

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1 Cor. 5. 7, 8. Christ our Passover is stain for us let us therefore keep the Feast, not with the old Leaven, &c. And in the early contest about the time of observing it betwixt the Churches of the East and West, they both alledged Apostolick Practice, the former that of St. John. the latter the rest of the Apostles; the fum of which Controversie was this. In the Eastern Churches where Converts from Judaism were very numerous, Easter was kept on the fame day the Jews celebrated their Passover, viz. on the 14th day of the first month, on what day soever it fell, which month began with the oxons or appearance of the Moon, whose 14th day was the time of the vernal Equinox, or if none fuch happned, then that whose 14 day came soonest after the vernal Equinox, and those were called Quartodecimani from keeping Eafter Quarta Decima Luna; but most Churches kept it on the Sunday first following the Jewish Passover; this difference in the observing of the Feast caused many warm disputes between the diffenting Parties. Polycarpus Bishop of Smyrna, that was St. John's Disciple, and kept it after the Jewish way, about the Year. 165 went to Rome to confer with Anicetus the Bishop Bishop there about it, but without compofing of the matter. In the Year 197. the Controversie was very high, and many Synods were affembled to determine it, by Pope Victor at Rome, Theophilus at Cafarea, Irenaus in France, and by other Bishops in other places, in most of which it was carried for Sunday, which Polycrates Bishop of E. phefus, and others of Afia, mightily oppose, whereupon Victor of Rome threatned to Excommunicate them: fome fay he did, others that he was disswaded from it by Ireneus. this did not end the diffention, but it still encreased and continued till the time of Constantine the Great, when in the General Council of Nice it was carried against the Asian Bishops, it being there ordained that Easter should be kept on the next Sunday after the first full Moon which shall happen after the one and twentieth of March, which was the time of the vernal Equinox, agreeable to which there were Tables composed for the discovery of the time; but those not so exact but they were often at a loss, and the Bishop of Rome received directions yearly from Alexandria (where were better Altromers) for stating the Week wherein Easter was to be kept. Till about the year

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year 532 Dionysius Abbas or Exiguus drew up more correct Tables and finifhed a Paschal Cycle for the observance of this Feast for ever, which was then generally received, and is still in use in the English Church, though it does not answer the Nicene Decree, the Golden Number (as is before shewn) not truly telling the change of the Moon, but is four days false, and in observing Easter the Church hath respect only to the Cycle of New Moons, in the first Column in the Calendar, and not to the time in which they really fall; for fo this present Year 1700. Easter should be kept on Palm Sunday a full Moon falling on Saturday the 23d of March; neither does it answer that part of the Decree that respects the vernal Equinox which by the excess of the Julian Year fince the time of that Council has run backwards a 11 days. falling now on the 10th. which did then on the 21st of March, by which it sometimes falls out, that there be two full Moons betwixt the faid Equinox and Easter, contrary to the primitive institution of it: To reform which Error, the Church of Rome has not only cut off the furplufage of a 11 days from the Calendar, but rejected also the Golden Number, and

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Feasts, &c. in April.

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instead of it has appointed Tables of Epacts to discover the New Moons, though in this alteration there is often a day's and sometimes two days mistake.

SECT. IX.

Of the Fasts, Feasts, &c. in April.

April bath 30 days.

a LASTER MUNDAY and EASTER TEUSDAY, In the Primitive Church all the space betwire Easter and Whitesunside was used to be kept as one entire Festival, during which time Baptism was confered, and all Fasts were suspended; afterwards this long Feast was contracted to a week, and at last only these two days left as attendants on Easter the Queen of Feasts.

b Richard firnamed Delawich, from a Town in Worcestershire the place of his Nativity; was educated at Oxford, and studied at several Universities in foreign Parts, from whence returning was made Chancellor of Canterhiry, and afterwards of Oxford, and in the year 1245.was Consecrated Bishop

of Chichester: a Man of extraordinary Endowments, and of great Piety, for which and many Miracles reported of him was twenty years after his death Canonized a Saint. He dyed upon this day 1253, in the 56th year of his Age.

and was buried at Chichester.

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Ambrofe, This Man while but a Catechumen was elected to the See of Milan on this occasion: He was bred a Soldier under his Father, and was at length deputed Governor of Salubria and Amilia (as 'tis faid) with this Injunction that he should govern not as a temporal Judge only, but as a Bishop too, which proved both an Admonition and a Prophecy, for upon a vacancy in the See of Milan by the death of Auxentius the Arrian Bifhop, there arose a great contention betwixt the Orthodox and Arrians about a Successor, and the difference like to encrease to Tumult and Sedition this Ambrofe went thither to compose it, where entring the Church, and with moving Oratory perswading the contending Parties to Peace and Unity, they all united in the choice of him, and though he made abundance of excuses to decline the charge, and counterfeited even Immorality to shew an unfitness for so holy

an Office, yet they still presisted in their Choice, to which (the Emperor likewise approving it) he at last submitted, and was both Baptized and Consecrated the same time. He was before highly accomplished for Humane Learning, which by his study made him the sooner eminent for Divine, in both which none of the Fathers did excell him; he was a stout Champion against the Arrian Hereticks, and by his learned Pen Confuted such as he could not Convert.

He was in high efteem with the Emperor Theodofius, though he once that him out of the Church, and imposed on him a severe Penance for a rash Murther at Thessalonica; and when the Emperor alledged the Example of David in excuse, St. Ambrose answer'd him, Quent secution be had followed in Sin he should immitate in Repentance. He was Bishop 22. years, lived 77. and dyed A. D.

397.

7 F LOW-SUNDAY, So called with respect to the high Festival Easter 8 g the next Sunday preceding. It is also called Dominica in albis, from dia vesting such as were Baptized at Easter of their White Garments, which in

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the Primitive Times they then put to b on to denote that Purity of Life they had engaged in, and did usually wear

c them all the foregoing Week. It is also called Quasi modo Geniti, from the

d beginning of the Antiphony 1 Pet. 2. 2. Quasi modo geniti Infantes, &c.

e As new born Babes desire the sincere

Milk of the Word, &c.

14 F MISERECORDIA

g Sunday after Easter, called from the a entrance on that in the 34th Psalm, b Miserecordis Domini plena est terra, c The Earth is full of the Goodness of the

d Alphege, An Englishman of noble

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Extraction, was sometimes Prior of Glastenbury, Consecrated Bishop of Winchester A. D. 984. and 12. years after was removed to Canterbury; he was a Man samed for extraordinary Piety and austerity of Life. When the City and Church of Canterbury was spoiled by the Danes, and most of the Inhabitants put to the Sword (by an odd fort of tithing, killing nine and sparing the tenth) this Bishop tasted of their cruelty, who after a most barbarous usage and imprisonment for 7. Months was murdered by them at Greenwich, A. D. 1012.

70-

F JUBILATE, The 3d. Sunday af-12 ter Easter is so called from the beg ginning of the 66. Pfalm, Jubilate 22

Deo. &c. O be joyful in the Lord all ye

Lands, &c.

George, A Noble Cappadocian and Tribune of Soldiers under Dioclesian, and by him Martyr'd for his constancy in the Christian Faith. This Martyr is highly honoured among the Turks, whose Sepulcher they pretend to shew at Aleppo. Justinian erected a magnificent Temple in honour of him at Lydda, for which and a tradition that he there suffered; it was called St. George's in the time of the Holy War. This Saint our King Edward the 3d, chose as a Patron of the noble order of the Garter, upon' whose day the Installation of new Knights is usually celebrated at Windfor. But the account of this George in the Popish Legend, as a Knight Errant that killed a Dragon, has caused some to suspect there was no fuch Saint; the fumm of which Story is this. It happened that at Silea a Town in Libya the Inhabitants were infested with a pernicious Dragon, that by his pestiferous Breath caused a great Mortality amongst 'em; when they could by no means drive him thence

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thence purchas'd their fecurity by giving him daily two Sheep; this in some time made such a Daerth amongst 'em that they were no longerable to perform their Contract; whereupon they compounded afresh, and gave him every day one Sheep and one Man to be chosen by Lot. It happen'd that the Lot fell upon the King's Daughter, a virtuous and beautiful Virgin, and accordingly was led with much Sorrow and Lamentation as a prey to the Dragon, but fortunately was met in the way with our George, armed Cap-a-pe, and looking as fierce as in a Vintners Sign, who feeing this Tragical Procession enquired into the meaning of it, which being told him, and the place of the Dragon's relidence, forthwith fet Spurs to his Horse, furiously attack'd him, ran him through with his Lance and kill'd him, fo rescued the Damfel and delivered the City from this heavy Imposition.

This as a Fable is pretty tolerable and an excellent Moral may be made of it, but as an History is of a like credit with Kentish Tailes, and should not be here related but to shew why he is pictured like a warlike Knight with a Dragon at his Horses feet.

C 5 St. MARK

25 c St. MARK Evangelist, A
Disciple and Attendant, and as some
think a Convert of St. Peter. The
Gospel that bears his Name is said to
be of St. Peter's dictating, at least
composed out of his Sermons and
Discourses, and by him ratified and
approved. This Gospel was first
written in Latin, as some contend,
and aftrewards translated into Greek

d by himself, the Original whereof is reported to be at Venice, but not Legible for its great Antiquity. He is reported to Preach the Gospel in Agypt, where his Zeal against Idolatry could not long escape the fury of Idolaters, being put to death at Alexandria, the chief place of his Residence, A. D. 61. His Body was

Alexandria, the chief place of his Refidence, A. D. 61. His Body was burnt, but his Bones and Ashes collected and decently Entombed, and after some Ages translated to Venice where the finest Church in the World is dedicated to his memory, and he taken for the Patron of their CommonWealth, and a Feast is yearlythere kept in memory of his Translation.

28 F CANTATE, The 4th. Sunday after Easter, is called by this name from

29 g the beginning of the Antiphony, Pf. 98. Cantate Domino, &c. Singrunto the

30 a Lord a new Song.

SECT. X.

SECT. X.

Of the Feasts, &c. in May.

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May bath 31. Days.

b PHILIP and JACOB. It is affirm'd by fome that in the first times of Christianity all the Apostles were Commemorated in the Latin Church upon this day, afterwards when the rest had peculiar places in the Calendar, this day was left to St. Philip and St. James. The first was of the City Bethfadia, and one of the Twelve Apostles; besides what the Scripture mentions of him he is faid to Preach the Gospel in the two Phrygia's, and was Martyr'd for it at Hierapolis in Afia, being both Crucified and Stoned, E A. D. 52. The latter, St. Jacob. was called also James the less from his low stature, in distinction from the other James of a greater height, from his near relation to the Virgin Mary called our Lord's Brother, and from his virtuous Qualities James the Just. He was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, which he govern'd for 30. . years with fuch Prudence and Piety that the very Enemies of his Faith did yet honour him for the justice and

and holiness of his Life; yet by the politick cruelty of Ananias the High Priest he was put to death, being thrown headlong from the Pinacle of the Temple where he was Preaching to the People, and half dead praying for his Persecutors, a certain Fuller with his Club beat out his Brains, A. D. 63. He wrote the Catholick Epistle that bears his Name, which though at first not admitted as genuine was yet afterwards, about the year 494. received into the Canon, and its Authority never fince questioned in the Church. There was a Book called Proto-Evangelium, a pretended History of the Birth and Descent of the Virgin Mary and our Saviour's Infancy, attributed to this James, which not agreeing with the rest of Canonical Scriptures was condemn'd as a Forgery in a Council at Rome, A. D. The Feast of these two Apostles is kept in the Greek Church on Offober the 23d.

Invention of the Cross, otherwise called Roodmass, a day in memory of finding out the Cross on which our Saviour Suffered, by St. Helene Mother of Constantine the Great; The Cross (as the story goes) had been buried under ground by Heathers,

and a Temple dedicated to Venus built over it, which Temple by order of Helene being demolished, by e digging there were found three Croffes, that of our Saviour and of the two Thieves. Our Saviour's was difcovered by applying it to a Woman at the point of death by which she was instantly recovered. In this place Constantine built a Church call'd the Temple of the Sepulchre, which still remains, the showing of which Sepulchre to Christians that come out of Superstition or Curiosity to visit it, is of great advantage to the Turks, in whose Possession it is.

ROGATION SUNDAY, So called from an ancient custom for Rogations, Litanies and Fastings to be used on the three following days, partly for an holy preparation to the Feast of the Ascension the Thursday following, and partly to importune God's Bleflings on the Fruits of the Earth, and to deprecate his Judgments from them which are now tender and easily hurt. That which first gave occafion to these Processionary Rogations were Earthquakes and other great Calamities in France, and therefore appointed by Mamercus Bishop of Vaenne A. D. 450. which by the Council

cil of Aurelia, A. D. 506. were decreed to be observed upon this time in the Universal Church; and by the Injunctions of Queen Elizabeth in our Perambulations in viewing the Limits of particular Parishes at this time, Psalms with the Litany, Suffrages and Homily of Thanksgiving are appointed to be said at convenient places.

g John Port Latine. On this day is remembred the miraculous deliverance of St. John the Evangelist, whom the Emperor Domitian caused to be

b he came like the three Children out

of the Furnace unhurt.

of the Furnace difficit.

ASCENSION, or Holy Thursday, is a day Conscerated to the memory of our Saviour's Ascension into Hea-

Work of Man's Redemption upon
Earth; this hath been Celebrated in
the Church from the Apostles days

though fome think not on a peculiar day, but in the Quinquagefimal interval from Easter to Pentecost.

the Sunday after Ascension from the

13 g entrance on the 27th Pfalm, v. 7. Ex-

audi Domine. Hear me O Lord when I a cry, &c. This Week is also called

14 b Expectation Week, because at this time 15

c the Apostles were in expectation of 16

d the Holy Ghost, which our Saviour 17

18 e promised to send them when ascended to his Father.

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WHITE SUNDAY, This is one of the three grand Festivals of the year. kept in memory of the Holy Ghost's descending on the Apostles, and other Christians, in the visible appearance of fiery cloven Tongues, and the miraculous Powers that were thereby conferred on them. It is called in the English Church White Sunday, because on this day (a stated time for Baptism in the Primitive Church) fuch as were Baptized were clothed in White Garments to denote that Innocence and Purity they had obliged themselves to by this Sacrament, or else from that abundance of Light and Knowledge in Divine Mysteries the Apostles were inspired with to enlighten the World. It is called Pentecost, because fifty days from the Christian Passover our Saviour's Rejurrection, and because this miraculous descent of the HolyGhost was on the fame day on which was celebrated the Pentecost of the Jews, though though whether it happened then on the first day of the Week as we now observe it, is a question of some difficulty to resolve. For the Jewish Pentecost was accounted from the 2d. day of unleavened Bread, which is understood by the morrow after the Subboth in Levinicus 23. 15. as most Interpreters do hold; for those Feasts that consisted of many days the first and last were termed Sabboths.

Now in the year of our Saviour's Passion the Passover fell upon Thursday, on Friday began the Feast of Unleavened Bread called a Sabboth, fo that the morrow after the Sabboth must then be Saturday, from whence the fiftieth day or Pentecost would be on Saturday again. I find many answers to this Objection too tedious to be mentioned here, that which I think the most satisfactory is this, that though it was ordinary to begin a reckoning from the 2d. day of Unleavened Bread, yet when that day fell upon the Sabboth they were to account from the 3d for this reason, because on the first of the fifty days many fervile Works were appointed, which were not lawful to be done on any of their Feasts, much less their high Feast the Sabboth; for which reason reason it was to begin not from the Feast of Unleavened Bread but the morrow after, and therefore for the fame or a greater reason ought it to be deferred till after the Sabboth: If so then the fifty days that year began to be numbred from the Lord's-day, and the Jewish Pentecost fell upon the fame.

19 F Dunstane. On the 19th day of this Month is likewise remembred St. Dunstane, a Man famous for Miracles in the Monkish Histories, he was born in Somersetshire, and Educated for the most part at the famous College of Glastenbury, which by his procurement was converted to an Abby for Benedictine Monks, of which he was made the first Abbot; from thence being fent for to Court was in good esteem under several Kings, but at last banish'd by King Edwin, (some fay for reproving that King's Vices) retired a while in France. Edgar that fucceed foon recalled him, and promoted him first to the See of Worcester, then London, and last of all to Canterbury. He was a great Patron of Monks, and as great an Enemy of married Priefts, which in a Synod at Winchester held by this Dunstane, lost their Cause by the miraculous decision

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decision of a Wooden Rood, uttering (or rather one of the Monks conveighing by a trunk) these Words, God forbid it should be so. He is commonly pictured with a pair of Tongues with which he is storied to catch the Devil by the Nose for interrupting his Devotion in his Cell at Glassenbury. He was Archbishop 27. years, and dyed upon this day A. D. 988.

g WHITE MUNDAY and TEUSa DAY, These two days are added as b Attendants on White Sunday, in ho-

23 c nour of this high Feast, and for the 24 d more solemn celebration of it.

25 e Ember Wicek, Vide Feb. 21. 26 F TRINITY STIND AY In the

TRINITY SUNDAY, In the first Ages this day was only noted as the Octave of Pentecost, and began to be kept in honour of the Blessed Trinity in later times, that the Doctrine of it might be particularly professed and asserted against Arrians and other Hereticks that impugn'd it; as also out of solemn and set Devotion to the Blessed Trinity, to whom the great Works of Redemption and Sanctification before Commemorated ought to be ascribed.

Austine, On the 20th of this Month is placed Austine a Benedictine Monk, sent to this Island, with 40. Assistants,

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by Gregory the Great to Convert the English to the Faith of Christ. He arrived at the Isle of Thanet, and foon converted Ethelbert King of Kent, way being made towards it by his Queen Berthra a Christian before. By the faid Gregory the Archiepiscopal See of London was translated to Canterbury, and this Austine Consecrated the first Archbishop of it. The British Bishops in Wales, 7. in number, refused the subjection that he claimed over them, having an Archbishop of their own, and by his haughty carriage made them averse to all his Propofals; whereupon he prophefyed their Destruction, and as some report had an hand in fulfilling it, moving King Ethelbert to war against them, whereby (besides an infinite number of Soldiers) 1200, unarmed Monks of the famous Monastery of Bangor in Flintshire, were put to the Sword. 'Tis faid in Bede's History that this happened some years after this Ausine's death, but this Passage is not to be found in the Saxon Copies, which makes it suspected to be afterwards thrust in. However many Miracles are reported of him, for which he was afterwards Canonized a Saint, He built the Monastery of St. Peter

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St Peter and St. Paul near Canterbury, known afterward by the name of St. Austine's, in the Church-porch of which he was buried A. D. 611. having fat Archbishop 13. years, with this Inscription upon his Tomb.

Hic requiescit Augustinus Dorobernensis Archiepiscopus qui olimini buc à Gregorio Romana urbis Pontifice directus, & à Deo operatione miraculorum suffultus, & Ethelbertum Regem & Gentem illius ab idolorum cultu ad fidem Christi perduxit, & completis in Pace diebus Officij sui defunctus est, 7. Cal. Jun. eodem rege regnante.

Bede, A Saxon Priest, born at Tarrow in the Bishoprick of Durbam, and Scholar to St. Cuthbert, lived most of his days in the Monastery of Werimouth in that County. For his Picty and Learning had the title of Venerable after his death, though about the reason of this Title the Monks (as one speaks) using, ad ineptias certant, and relate many ridiculous stories, a pretty comical one is this that follows.

A Monk had a mind to write his Epitaph, and not being able to hammer out a dactyle to make up this

an Hexameter.

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Hac sunt in Fossa Beda-Ossa.

Left it thus gaping over Night, to consider with his Pillow about a proper Epithet that would sute the place, and in the Morning found it filled up with Venerabilis. He wrote many Excellent Works, particularly an History of Affairs in England, which he Dedicated to Kenulph the 16th King of Northumberland, under whom he lived and dyed in a great Age A. D. 731.

b K. CHARLES 2. RETURN. This is a day of Thankfgiving for reftoring of King Charles the 2d. to his Hereditary Throne, and with him

the Ancient Government, and Laws, and true Religion to the Kingdom, and the People to their Wits; which

d is therefore by Act of Parliament to be perpetually observ'd.

* it by means offer the jesty; own wit!

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SECT. XI.

Of the Fasts, Feasts, &c. in June.

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June bath 30. days. F N Icomedes, a Roman Martyr that for burying the Martyr Felicug la was put to death in the 7th Persecution. 4 5 Boniface, This was an English Saxon called Winfride, and had the name Boniface when Confectated Bishop. He Travelled and Preached the Gospel 6 c in Germany, and was a great Instrument in restoring Christianity there, which by the Conquests of the Franks, Almaines, and other Infidels was near d rooted out. He was made Archbishop of Mentz, erected many Episcopal Sees and Churches, is said to Baptize an Hundred Thousand, and e was so successful in propagating the Gospel, that he fairly merited the Title of Apostle of Germany with F which he was honoured. He was at last Murdered with 50 Attendants as g he was going to root out the remainder of Heathenism in Friesland, A. D. 755. He was buried at the Abby of Fulda, a Monestery of his own Foundation,

Feasts, &c. in June. dation, famous for its Library of Manuscripts, transcribed for the most

part out of that of Tork.

BARNABAS, Though he was not one of the Twelve, yet by extraordinary Commission an Apostle of Christ. He was first named Foses. afterwards Barnabas was superadded

b to it, which fignifies a Son of Confolation; He was Born in the Isle of Cyprus, and Educated at Jerusalem (some fay) under Gamaliel, with St. Paul his Fellow-traveller afterwards

c in the Work of the Gospel. He was an early Convert, and (as fome will have it one of the 70 Disciples) fold his Estate, which was considerable, and gave it all to the use of the

d Church; after St. Paul's Conversion, these two were constant Companions, till the unhappy disagreement about the readmission of Barnabas's Cosen Mark, who through fear of Persecu-

e tion, or tired with the incommodiousness of an Itinerant Life, had deferted them at Pamphylia, but afterward sensible of his Error return'd and would fain be admitted into their company again, to which Barnabas confented, but Paul refused him upon which the contention grew fo great that they parted company, Barnabas

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nabas with his Cosen Mark Sail'd into Cyprus, where the Scripture leaves him. Some say he travelled from thence to Italy, and the City of Mil-

16 F lain claims him as their first Bishop, There is an Epistle that goes under his name, which though not received into the Canon of Scripture was yet frequently cited by the Fathers of the Church; there was also a Gospel ascribed to him, but rejected as an Imposture. Concerning the time of his Death there is no certain account; but for the place most affirm he was Martyr'd at Cyprus, being Stoned to Death for Preaching Christ in the Jewish Synagogue, and was there buried by his Nephew ; 70hm Mark, with St. Matthews Gospel he had transcribed with his own hand,

Alban, This Man was a Wealthy Citizen of Verulam, converted to Christianity by Amphibalus a Priest of Caerleon, who flying thence to avoid Persecution was sheltered in this our Alban's House, being here discovered, by changing Habit with his Host, made his escape, but some say was pursued and Martyr'd at Redbourn. But Alban offered himself in his Friend's stead to the Pagan Inquisitors, whom resusing to Sacrifice to their

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their Gods, and reproving others for fo doing they fentenc'd to be Beheaded. Going to the place of Execution. on an Hill called Holmburst, there was a River to be paffed over, which by his Prayers he caused to be divided for a dry and a quick Passage, which Miracle so affected the Executioner that he refused the Office, and declared himself a Christian, and was therefore presently Baptized in his Blood. another performing the office to them both. He is called our Stephen and Proto-Martyr of Britain, the first Recorded in this Island to have suffered for Christ, which was in the tenth Persecution under Dioclesian, A. D: 300. In memory of this Martyr Offa King of Mercia erected a stately Monaftery near the place of his Death. A.D. 793. the Buildings about which foon encreasing to a spacious Town. was from him called St. Alban's.

c Edward, This is the day of trand flating the Body of Edward the Mar-

e tyr, of whom fee March 18.

g Haft, vide February 1.

g JOHN BAPTIST, The reason why the Birth-day of John the Baptist and not of the rest of the Saints, is Celebrated by the Church, is because of the great joy at his Birth, and the

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good and joyful effects of it to the
World, his Nativity declaring that
of our Saviour, whose forerunner he
was. He is called the Baptist from
his Office of Baptizing to Repen-

b tance, to make way for the reception of the Gospel, and had the honour to Baptize our Saviour himself in the River Jordan. He was held in great reverence for his strict seve-

rities and holiness of Life, till reproving Herod for his Incestuous Marriage was beheaded at the instigation of the unlawful Wife, A. D. 30. This is commonly called Midsummerday, but very improperly, for the Summer Solstice is a fortnight sooner, though when the Baptist was living it happened on this day.

28 d faft, vide Feb. 1.

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st. PETER, This Apostle and St. Paul were formerly joined in one Festival, but the latter being Commemorated in the Church on the Feast of his Conversion, this day was left wholly to St Peter, of whom the Scripture is very copious; besides the account of him there, he is said to Preach the Gospel in Asia Minor, afterwards at Rome, from whence he is Banished by Claudius, returns again and there consounding Symon Magus the

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the Sorcerer, is put to death with St. Paul, by the command of Nero, A. D. 66. He was Crucified with his Head downwards, begging this of the Executioner, because he thought himself unworthy to die in the like manner with his Lord. He was buried in the Vatican which was afterwards Beautifyed and Enlarged in honour of him. He left behind him two Epistles received into the Canon of the Church; several other Books have been entituled to his Name, but rejected as the Works of Hereticks to corrupt the Faith.

SECT. XII.

Of the Feasts, &c. in July.

July bath 31 Days.

2 a Visitation of Many, This is a day in memory of the Blessed Virgins visiting Elizabeth after the had b Conceived the Son of God, whom

the Baptist then faluted in his Mother's Womb.

4 c Martin, He was first a Soldier, and at last made Bishop of Towrs in France. He is commonly pictured with

72 Feasts, &c. in July. with half a Cloak in memory of a d remarkable act of his Charity when a Soldier, and but, a Catechumen : 6 e Meeting with a naked Beggar, and having no Money wherewith to re-F lieve him, drew his Sword, divided his Cloak in the midst, and gave him 8 g one part; and, they fay our Saviour appear'd to him the next Night 9 a with that part of the Cloak about b him. He dyed in the 61st year of 10 his Age, A. D. 397, and was of so TT great Esteem and Veneration, especid ally in France, that the year of his 12 death was anciently an Epoch in that 13 e Kingdom. His Life is written at F large by his Scholar Sulpicius Severns, 14 who reports many Miracles of him. Swithine, He was a Man in great 1.5 Reputation with King Egbert, who committed to his tuition his younger Son Etbelwolfe, who was made a Sub-deacon of Winchester, (and some fay Bishop) and was afterwards King of England, in whose time b Tythes were confirm'd to the Church. 17 This Swithine arrived to be Bishop of that See, of whom it is reported, c that when repairing the Bridge of Winton his Workmen out of a wanton roguery had broken a Market-

Woman's Basket of Eggs; this Bishop

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Feasts, &c. in July.

miraculously restored them whole; which with other Miracles fathered upon him, and the great opinion of d Holiness procur'd him to be Canonized a Saint. He dyed A. D. 862. and was buried in the Church-yard according to his own order, but afterwards translated into the Church. This day is called by some Weeping St. Swithine's from the usual Rains a. bout this time occasioned by two watery Constellations in the Sign

Margareth, A beautiful Virgin of Antioch, whom her own Father, for embracing Christianity, accus'd to the President Olibrius, who as much admiring her Person as hating her Religion courted her for his Wife, but not prevailing, after various torments to force her to abjure the Faith. in vain inflicted on her, she was at

Cancer now rising with the Sun.

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last beheaded, A D. 306.

Magdalene, This is she out of whom our Saviour cast 7 Devils, and is often mentioned in the Scripture. An ancient Manuscript in the Vatican reports, that she with Joseph of Arimathea, Lazarus and Martha, about the time of St. Stepben's Martyrdom, were carried to the Sea side, and put in-

to an old Veffel without Stern or Sail, but D 3

but were by Providence preserved and driven ashore at Marseilles in France,

24 b and from thence failed into our Island of Britain; but most affirm that she constantly attended on St. John till her death, which happened at Ephesus about the Year 63.

St. JAMES, For his great bulk and high stature in respect of the other Apostle of that Name was furnamed the Great. He was Son of Zebedee and Salome, and Brother to St. John. After the Ascension of our Lord is reported to preach the Gofpel to the dispersed Jews, but chiefly fudea, where his great fuccess in gaining Converts to Christianity, was so hateful to the Jews, that Herod Agrippa thought it a ready way to ingratiate himself with them was to Sacrifice this Apostle to their Malice, and accordingly was beheaded by the command of that Tyrant, A. D. 42. His Body was buried at Jerufalem, afterwards translated to Gallicia, from thence to Compostella in Spain, where the Papists say it still remains, and is there visited by a great number of Pilgrims, and adored by the Superstitious Bigots of the Roman Church.

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26 d Ann, She was the Mother of the Blessed Virgin by her Husband Joachim, and is reported to have two

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a - 27 e Husbands besides. By one of which she had another Mary, which married to Alphaus, had by him 4 Sons,

28 F James the less, Joseph the just, Symon and Jude; by the other had Salome which married to Zebedee, had by

29 g him James the great, and John A-postles; that she had also two Sisters Mary and Sobe, the last the Mother

Mary and Sobe, the last the Mother 30 a of Elizabeth, Mother of John Bapist, which if true gives a fair account

b of our Saviours Relations according to the Flesh.

SECT. XIII.

Of the Feasts, &c. in August.

August bath 31. days.

Ammas, derived by some from the Saxon Halrmæsse, which signifies a Feast of Bread, a thanksgiving day for the first Fruits of Corn; others say it was so called from a custom of the Tenants that held of the Cathedral of Tork, called by the D4 name:

name of Sti. Petri ad Vincula, or St. Peter's Chains, to bring a live Lamb into that Church upon this day in acknowledgement of their Tenure, and

d fo the word hath still respect to St.

Peter's Chains, to the memory of
which was dedicated this day, viz.
of those Chains (as some relate)
with which St. Peter was bound with

at Rome, of which many Miracles are reported, and particularly this following which gave occasion to the Feast. A Daughter of one Quirinus Tribune of Rome, being afflicted with a desperate Swelling in her Throat, by kissing of those Chains, at the direction of Alexander Bishop of that

Theodofius, being presented with the Chains St. Peter was bound with at Je-

See, was instantly recovered.

F Others relate that Eudocia Wife of

rusalem, sent one of them to her Daughter Eudoxia Wife of Valentinian at Rome, which the Bishop there comparing with those he was bound with at Rome, they both miraculously joined into one; in honour of which miraculous Chains the Empress Erected a Church with the title of Sti. Petri ad Vincula, and the Calends of August, observed by the Heathens in honour of Augustus Casar

77 Cafar were dedicated to the memory

of them.

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Transfiguration, A day in memory of our Saviour's glorious Epiphany on Mount Taber, when his Countenance shined beyond the brightness of the Sun, and his Garments were refplendent with Divine Light, Mark 17. By the Hymns of Damascene and Cosma this Feast appears to be observed (at least in some Churches) in the 7th Century.

Name Jesu, In memory of the

fweet and glorious Name of the Son of God, and the miraculous effects.

d by invoking of it in the Primitive

Church.

Laurence, This Man was Arch-deacon of Rome under Xistus Bishop of that See, whom when he saw led to

F Martyrdom, thus befpoke him, Whither go you, Father, without your Son?

12 8 Whither Holy Bishop without your Deacon to attend you? the Bishop answered

a him, Greater trials remain for you, my Son, and after three days the Deacon shall follow his Bishop, in the mean time di-

b stribute what you have of the Churches Treasure to the Poor; which he accor-

dingly did with all expedition; prefently after the Emperor commands. him to deliver up to him the Trea-

fures.

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78	Feasts, &c. in August.
16	d fures of the Church. He went and
17	e fetch'd to the Tyrants Palace a great number of Poor People and told him,
18	F These are the Treasures of the Church which will never be diminished; upon
19	g which he was fentenc'd to be broil'd on a Grid-Iron, which he underwent
20.	a with unparallel'd Fortitude and Ala-
21	b crity, calling to the Emperor to turn the other fide which was ready and
22	c eat it. He was Martyr'd under Vak- rian, A. D. 259.
23	d Fast. Vide Feb 1.
24	e St. BARTHOLOMEW, One
	of the twelve Apostles, of whom there is no more mention of him in Scripture, unless, as some think, he was that Nathanael spoken of 30.1.
	F 47. Upon the dispersion of the Apostles by the Persecution of Herod, he went and Preached the Gospel in Armenia, Lycaonia, Albania, and the hither part of India where he most resided, and by the command of Polemius, a King of those Parts, was put
26	g to death in a very barbarous manner, being first flea'd alive, and then Crucified, A. D. 51. He is faid to leave behind him to his Converts St Matthew's Gospel in the Hebrew Tongue. A Gospel bearing his own Name was afterwards forged by some Hereticks, and

and condemn'd as an Imposture. His a Body after feveral translations (ac-27 cording to the report of Papilts) rests at Rome, where they pretend to shew it in a Church in the Isle of Tiber called by his Name. This happened an unfortunate day to the Protestants of France 1572, when was: acted that horrid Popish Massacre at: Paris called the Parisian Mattins, wherein without any respect to Age, Sex, or Condition, about 4000 were:

Inhumanly butcher'd.

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Augustine, He was Bishop of Hippo in Africa, and a Learned Father of the Church, born (as some say) on the same day with that Arch-heretick the Welsh Morgan, of the the Monaftry of Banchor, called in Latin Pelagius, whom he afterwards learnedly Confuted. This Austine was himself. first seduced by the Error of the Manichees, but foon Converted and Baptized by St. Ambrose into the Orthodox Faith. He was ordained Presbyter by Valerius his Predecessor in the See of Hippo, in whose presence, for his extraordinary Abilities he was: admitted to Preach, a thing unufual in those times, and in his Predecesfors. life time Confecrated Bishop, though contrary to the Nicene Canons. He

was:

was Malleus Hereticorum, a zealous afferter of the Truth against the Hereticks of the Age he lived in, and wrote about 1030 Volumes, many of which perished in the Flames of that City presently after his death taken and destroy'd by the Vandals. He sate Bishop 36. lived 76 years, and

dyed A. D. 430.

day in commemoration of John Baptiff's death, called his Decollation, who was beheaded for reproving Herod of Incest, at the instigation of his Strumpet Herodias. This Herod had married a Daughter of Aretas King of Arabia, whom he repudiated for the street of this Woman, who had cloved

fake of this Woman, who had eloped from her lawful Husband his Brother Philip, which was the cause of much War betwixt the Jews and Arabians, and the loss of the Baptist's Head. His Head (the Papists say) was afters wards translated to Rome, and reposited in St. Silvester's Church there, at though they'll shew you part of it in

e though they'll shew you part of it in 20 Churches besides, and two or three pretend to have the same; such an hydra have they made of this Saint, and of so great esteem are Relicks amongst the ignorant superstitious Prople of that Church.

SECT.

SECT. XIV.

Of the Feasts, &c. in September.

September bath 30 days.

I F Gres, Many and strange things are reported of this Man, much more than will be allowed for truth. Tis said he descended from Noble Parents, and distributing his Patri-

Parents, and distributing his Patrimony to the Poor, betook himself to an Hermetical Life in France, where in a Cell he applyed himself to Devotion, having no other Company

a but a Deer that often visited and fed him with her Milk. It happened that the King hunting this Deer pursued her to Gyler's Cell, and shooting in

4 b an Arrow after her wounded this.

Hermite in the Thigh, (hence the faying of Lame Gyles) of which

Wound he prayed never to be reco-

vered, that he might not want matter of Mortification. Near this place the King built a Monastry, of which

he made him Abbot. Hence Churches named by this Saint are for the most part in the Suburbs of Cities, and fcarce ever within the Walls.

Enurchus

82 Feasts, &c. in September.

fhop of Orleans, in the Reign of Ch.

Martel of France, by whom he was banished and dyed in Exile, A. D.

8 F Nativity of Mary, This is the Bleffed Virgins Birth-day, who was

Daughter of St. Foachim and St. Ann, o a (an high Festival in the Roman Church)

b and was anciently Celebrated because of the great honour conferr'd upon

c her in being the happy Mother of the

13 a Son of God.

day in commemoration of erecting our Saviours Cross in Mount Calvary by the Emperor Heraclius, A. D. 629.

The Cross was now regained from the Persians, which had been in their Possession, since their taking of Jerusalem, 14 years. Of whose Exalta-

Emperor in a very glorious and fplendid Attire, with the Cross on his Shoulders, marching towards the Mount, when he came to the Gate that leads to it could go no farther, at which he and his Atten-

16 g dants standing amazed, Zachery the Patriarch told him, that such a triamphant dress was much unlike the Poverty and Humility of the Son of

God

God that once carried it, whereupon changing his costly Array for a plainer Habit he easily went on the rest of the way. Cross in the Saxon Language is called Rood, and therefore this is vulgarly called Hoby Rood

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Lambert, This was an Holy Bishop of Tungres a City in Belgium, who for reproving Pipin, major domo of France, for Adultery, was barbaroully Murdered by the Harlots Brother. They report that after his death no dishonest Woman could come so near him as to touch his Body, which being Translated and Entombed in a Neighbouring Village called Leige, by the concourse of Pilgrims thither it foon became a great City, and the Episcopal See of Tungres was removed thither by his Successor St. Hubert. who built the Cathedral Church which is called by the Name of St. Lambert at this day.

8 b Ember Wick, Vide Feb. 21.

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20. d fatt, Vide Feb. 1.

21 e St. MATTHEW, From a Publican or Tax-gatherer was Conver-

of all wrote an History of our Saviour's Life, and published his Gospel 84 Feasts, &c. in September. in the Hebrew Tongue as most of the Fathers do affirm; by whom it was g afterwards translated into Greek is not fo certain: He is reported to Preach the Gospel chiefly in Athioa pia, where he was entertained by that Eunuch St. Philip had Baptized; and there some say he dyed a Natural death, others that he fuffered Martydom being flain with an Halbert, A. D. 71. 26 Cyprian, called also Cacilius, from Cacilius the Priest that Converted and Baptized him; was first Priest and afterwards Bilhop of Carthage in Africa, where he had great contest with Falicissimus the Author of the Schism in the case of the Laps, such as to avoid Perfecution had renounc'd the d Faith, whom he would have restored to the Church, without the ancient and severe Discipline required in such cases. Great Controversy there was also betwixt him and Stephen Bishop of Rome, whether Baptism administred by Hereticks were valid? St. Cyprian contended for the Negative, and a Synod of 87 Bishops at Carthage gave their Suffrage on his side, though 'tis faid before his death he altered his

e their Suffrage on his side, though 'tis faid before his death he altered his Opinion, and agreed in the case with the Roman Church. He was a couragious

gious afferter of the Faith against the Heathen Persecutors, by whom he was first Banished, and then within a year after recalled from Exile to Martyrdom, which he suffered in the 8th Persecution under Valerian, giving 20 Crowns to the Executioner that Beheaded him, A. D. 257.

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St. MICHAEL, This is a Festival in honour of St. Michael and the rest of the Holy Angels, those being appointed by God Almighty as Guardians and Protectors of the Church, and to Minister to such as shall be Heirs of Salvation, preferving the Souls of the Faithful from the Affaults of the Devil, and fafely conveighing them, when separated from the Body, into the Mansions of Bliss. Michael is here particularly Commemorated because he was the Tutelar Angel of the Jewish Church, and consequently now of the Christian Church that succeeds it. The Romanists call it also the Dedication of St. Michael, from a Church on Mount Garganus which they fay was built by him, and Dedicated to him by his own appointment, and his Apparition on that Mount is Commemorated by them on the 8th of May.

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Hierom, He was Born at Stride in Dalmatia, and Educated at Rome under Donatus, where he greatly profited in all kind of Learning, from thence travelled through Italy, Gallia and other Countries, fettled for fome time an Hermite in Syria; afterwards studied in Dalmatia where he heard the famous Didymus, and at Bethlebem where he became very learned in the Hebrew Tongue, which caufed his Translation of the Bible into Latin to be preferr'd by Pope Damafus to the Septuagint it felf. He was ordained Priest by Paulinus of Antioch without any Title, and therefore had great contest with John Patriarch of Constantinople that claimed Jurisdiction over him. He never arrived to be higher than a Priest, though a Man of so great worth that St. Auftin was ready to give him place, faying, Though a Priest was inferior to a Bishop, yet Austin the Bishop was inferior to Jerom the Priest. He was called Catholicorum Magister, and Lumen Mundi, Titles well befitting his Deserts. He is commonly Pictured in the habit of a Cardinal; but that Order (especially as now it is) is of much later date, and is beholding wholly to the Painters for his Hat. He was in

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a continual Itinerant till he was fixt at Bethlebem by Death, which happened in the 81st. year of his Age, A. D. 420.

SECT. XV.

Of the Feasts, &c. in October.

October hath 31 days.

R Emigius, This Man for his extraordinary Piety, and other Qualifications, was made Archbishop of Rhemes at 22 years old, and replanted Christianity in France, where it had been destroyed by the Franks at their coming thither, Baptizing Clodoveus the fifth King of that Nation, His Queen Crotilda was a Chrib stian before, and he was Converted

b stian before, and he was Converted upon this occasion. Warring with the Almaines, and likely to be overthrown in Battle prayed to Christ whom his Queen Worshiped, and vowed to turn Christian if he won the Day; whereupon (as the story goes) a terrible fear possessed the Almaines, and the French were Conquerors, upon which the King perform'd his Vow

and was foon after Baptized. At whose Baptism this Miracle is related, c when he came with great Solemnity to the Font their happened to be wanting Chrism, with which it was used to be perform'd; when miraculously there descended a Dove with a pot full of Sacred Oyl and placed

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it in the Bishops seat, with which this

d King was Anointed; and they pretend to have it still in the Cathedral
Church of Rhemes undiminished, which
is had in great Veneration, and with
which the Kings of France are constantly Anointed at their Coronation.
This Bishop is said to live 96 years,

and to dye A. D. 545.

Faith, A Roman Virgin, who with her Mother Sophia, and her two Sisters

Hope and Charity, suffered Martyrg domunder the Emperor Adrian, A.D.

8 a 121. She is faid not to be above 12.

9 b Denys, This was a Learned and Noble Athenian, who travelled into Egypt for the study of Astronomy, in which he was very Learned, and being at Heliopolis when that miraculous Eclipse happened at our Saviour's

c Eclipse happened at our Saviour's Passion, cryed out, Aut Deus Natura patitur aut Mundi machina dissolvitur. Either the God of Nature suffereth, or

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the frame of the World is difforved. Re-

turning thence to Athens he was made a Judge, and from the place of Judicad ture there (Areopagus or Mars Hill) was furnamed Areopagite. There with his Wife Damaris was converted by the Preaching of St. Paul, and by him was Confecrated Bishop of that place.

Some Papifts relate of him, that

e he went thence and Preached the Gofpel in France, and was Beheaded at Paris; and that when his Head was cut off he took it up himself in his Arms and carried it about three Miles to a place from him called Fanum Dionysii. or St. Denys's. The Abby of which place had fometime a great contest with another Convent at Ratispone about this Saint, each pretending to have his whole Body; the matter was referr'd to the Pope, who was pleafed

him entire, decreeing it Herefy to contradict his infallible Nonsense. There are feveral Works, both in Greek and Latin, that go under his Name; but are held by the Learned Supposititious, and of no greater Antiquity then the middle of the fourth

to declare that each place possessed

Century.

g Edward, The last fave one of the Saxon Kings, furnamed the Confessor; but why he should have that Title is not easie to conceive; a Title given to such in the Primitive times that were Imprisoned for Christianity, which no History reports of him, and his severe dealings with his Mother, and his neglect of Conjugal Duties to his Wife do seem to blemish his Reputation of a Saint. But many Miracles are reported of him, as that by carrying a Criple,

him, as that by carrying a Criple, on his Back into St. Peter's Church Westminster, he recovered him of his Lameness, Et qui venit quadrupes discessive bipes, as the Legend has it; that he was visited by St. John in the habit of a begging Pilgrim, to whom for want of present Money he gave a Ring from off his Finger, which was returned him afterwards by two Pilgrims from Palestine, who told him

b he should die six Months after; and they say Havering in Essex is denominated from this Ring; and several other as strange things not doubted of in former times, and the truth of one Miracle ascribed to him cannot reasonably be questioned in this, and that is a curing by touch a Disease in the Throat called from hence the

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Kings Evil, because the Power has descended to his Successors ever since. He greatly enlarged the Church, and built the Monastry of St. Peter's West-minster, and richly endowed it; and dying A. D. 1066. was buried in his said Church.

Ethelred, commonly called St. Andry, She was Daughter to Anna King of the East Angles, and though she was twice Married and lived with her last Husband King Elfrid of Northumberland 12 years, yet remained a Virgin as Bede relates. At the end of which she left him, and retired for Devotion into the Isle of Ely. where she built a Monastery for Nuns. and was her felf the first Abbess thereof, which was afterwards converted to an Abby for Monks, and at last to a Bishoprick, in the Reign of King Henry 1. She had a Brother named Erkinwald that was the first Abbot of Chertsey in Surry, (which Monastery with that of Barking in Effex he Founded out of his one Patrimony) and afterwards Bishop of London, She had also four Sisters all which lived a monastick Life, and all of them with her Brother Erkenwald were Canonized for Saints. The Cathedral of Ely is called by the name

Feafts, &c. in October. 92 name of Etbelrede, who dyed about the year 682. 18 St. LUKE, A Learned Phylician of Antioch, and by some affirm'd to be one of the 70. and one of those two Disciples, the other Cleophas, our Saviour appeared to after his Refure rection in their walk to Emaus; but 19 is held by most to be a Convert of St. Paul whom he accompanied in his Travels, and is supposed to remain with him till his Death; though fome 20 fay he left him at Rome two years before he fuffered, and travelled Preaching the Gospel in Egypt and Libya, and became Bishop of Thebais. He wrote g two Canonical Books, both dedicated to one Theophilus, supposed to be some Pious Magistrate of Antioch that entertain'd St. Peter there. a In the composing of his Gospel was encouraged by St. Paul, who therefore calls it his Gospel. 'Tis said of him that he was a very skilful Painter, and drew feveral Pictures of b our Saviour and the Blessed Virgin; concerning whose death there is no certain account, some relate he was Martyr'd in Achaia, others at Rome, and some that he dyed a Natural Death in the 84th year of his Age, A. D. 74. Crispine,

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oral ge, who no fooner converted to Christianity but for fook the World, and with his Brother Crispinianus travelled in Gallia, and there in the Country of the Soisons Converted many to the Faith. In

e Soifons Converted many to the Faith. In imitation of the Apostles they betook themselves to manual employments, and chiefly to the trade of Shooemaking, and hence the Men of that Pro-

F fession have chosen this Crispine for their Patron Saint, and the honour done it by so noble a Person, was that I suppose that gave this Mystery the Title of Gentile Crast. In the Beach in Kent is a great heap of Stones which the neighbouring Inhabitants call St. Crispine's and Crispinainus Tombs, whom they report to be cast on this Shore by Shipwreck; but the best account is that they were both beheaded for the Gospel under Dioclesian in Gallia, A. D. 303.

28 g St. ST MO N and JUDE, These two Apostles are joined in one Festival, and (as some report) all the Apostles in the Greek Church were anciently Commemorated on this day, as in the Western Church on the Calends of May. 94 Feasts, &c. in October.

The first of these, Symon, was firnamed Zeletes, and the Cananite, the Ins latter (as some hold) of the same fense with the former Title, but obus in thers hold them distinct, and that he was call'dCananite, fromCana the place of his Nativity, and further fay he was that Bridegroom there at whose Wedding our Saviour turn'd Water into Wine. Zelotes for that he was one of the Sect of Zelots that in imitation of Phineas took upon them. without the formal proceeding at Law, to punish Offerders. Some think him to be St. Jude's Brother, and fo confound him with Symon the 2d. Bishop of Jerusalem, that was none of the twelve, he outliving St. John, with whom ended the Age of the Apostles. As fort his Apostle where he employed himself after the dispersion there are but uncertain accounts; one of which is that he Preached the Gospel in Egypt, Persia, and Africa, and at last in this our Island of Britain, where by the Infidels he was put to Death. This last is testified by Nicepborus, Dorotheus, and the Greek Martyrology, which is greater Authority than the Papifts have for St. Peter's being ever here though on this is founded one of their

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their weak Arguments for the Pope's Supremacy in this Kingdom.

2. Jude, called also Thaddeus, and furnamed Lebbeus, was Son of Mary half Sister to the Blessed Virgin, and Cleophas the Brother of Josephus Jusus, and therefore called the Lord's Brother; some will have him to be that Thaddeus sent to Agharus King of Edessa, contrary to Eusephus that calls him one of the 70. Disciples. 'Tis probable his chiefest Province for Preaching the Gospel was Judea, the adjacent Countries, and Persia; and the Latin Martyrologies tell us he suffered Martyrdom in Persia with Sy-

31 6 mon Zealotes.

St. J. D. E is the Author of one of the Catholick Epistles, the Authority of which was first questioned, because a Book of Enoch, an Apochryphal Writing is therein cited, but admitted into the Canon by early Councils, and acknowledged as genuine by the most Eminent Fathers of the Church. There was a Gospel attributed to him but rejected as a Fable.

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SECT. XVI.

Of the Feasts, &c. in November.

November bath 30 days.

A LL SAINTS, or ALL HALLOWS, (of the same signification) is a Feast in commemoration of the Saints in General, it being too great a burden to commerare them all in particular, and in the Church of England no other Saints

but the Apostles, Holy Innocents, St. Stephen, and John the Baptist are honoured with Festival Days. This is one of the Quarter days by which the Year is equally divided according to the

four Seasons, the other three Candelmas, Roodmas, and Lammas; and this way of Computation is of much use in the Western Parts.

4 g King WILLIAMIII. Born. On this day, A. D. 1650. was born his present Majesty King William, Nine days after his Fathers Death. He was Son to Henry Nassau Prince of Orange, and Princess Mary eldest Daughter to King Charles the Martyr.

Orange

Feasts, &c. in November. 97

Orange is a small Principality taken out of the Earldom of Provence, and came to the Family of Nassau A. D. 1530. by Henry Nassau's Marrying with Claud Sister and Heires of Philibert de Chalous the 4th absolute Prince of that Country. His Ancester Adolph was Emperor A. D. 1292.

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est yr. A day of Thanksgiving, appointed by Act of Parliament, for the wonderful discovery of that Hellish Plot contrived for the destruction of the Nation repesentative in Parliament A. D. 1605. of which our Histories give a full account; but for the hellish Cruelty thereof no History in the World affords the like.

— Furizeq; Erebufq; negarent
Hoc tantum dictare nefas exhorruit ether,
Et fremuere dij fupuitque exterritus orbis,
Non est non hominum scelus hoc ut tarta[ra cernas

Id molita nefas, imo de pellore terræ Impetus, éque fero venisset slamma Ba-[ratbro.

Barclaij conf p Angl.

6 b Leonard, This Man was of a good Family in France, Scholar to Remi-

7 c gius, and much in favour with Clodo-

3 d Nation, whom he would have advanced to a Bishoprick, but he mo-

9 c deftly refused it, and contented himself with a monastick Life, fam'd for

10 F extraordinary Piety and many Miracles, and dyed A. D. 452.

of his Translation; this is the day on which he dyed, accounted Critical in some Places, as if the Sun sets fair

cloud a mild Winter, &c. as Mantuan expresses it.

Sol bodie si clarus obit, denunciat acrem Atq; molestum byemem, si nubilus acra [mitem

Pradicat bybernum, &c.

But the falfity of fuch Observations if from nothing else, yet from the error of the Old Stile does plainly appear.

13 b Brice, This was St. Martin's Scholar, and his immediate Successor in the

Feasts, &c. in November. 99 the See of Tours. There he was charged with getting a Bastard on his Laundrefs; but they fay he proved himfelf Innocent by Miracle, making the Child, when but a Month old, declare he was not the Father; but the Peo-ple imputing this to Magick, still Persecuted him with their Reproaches, fo as he was forc'd to defert his Bishoprick, and retired to Rome, where he lived for 7 years a very pions and unblameable Life, after that return'd to his Bishoprick and dyed, A. D. 444.

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Machut, I find this Man was a Bishop, but when, of what See I have not met with.

17 F Hugh, This Man was Born at Gratianopolis in Burgundy, and lived there a Carthufian Monk, in great Reputation for Holiness and Austerity of Life. Our King Henry II. building a Monastery for that Order at Witleham in Somersetshire, invited him over to be Prior of it, of which after much g Solicitation he accepted, and from thence by the same King was preferred to the Bishoprick of Lincoln, which he govern'd with great strict-

ness and severity; and they say his

Excom-

Feasts, &c. in November. 100

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Excommunications were ever attend-Roman ed with some notable Calamity. He his telrebuilt from the Foundation his Caas forme thedral Church, and dying upon this day 1200. was there interr'd, John King of England, and William King of ri De mi Scots, happening to be at Lincoln at the time of his Funeral affifted in carrying him to his Grave. He was 20 years after Canonized a Saint.

20 b Edmund, He was King of the East Angles, and barbarously Murdered by the Pagan Danes, for his constancy in the Christian Faith, A. D. 780. His Body was Interr'd at a Place then cal-

led Bederifgueard, and afterwards from the occasion of his Burial there, St. Edmund's-Bury, where was after built a most spacious Church, which being destroyed by Swene the Dane, was rebuilt in a more splendid manner by his Son Canutus, who offered his own Crown on the Martyrs Tomb,

Cicely, A Roman Virgin betroathed to Valerianus, who suffered Martyrdom, together with her Spoufe, about the year 230. She should feem to excell in Musick, the lovers of it having chosen her for their Patron Saint.

Clement,

Feasts, &c. in November. 101

Clement, He was by Birth a Roman, acknowledged by St. Paul as his fellow Labourer, Phil. 4. 3 and as fome relate was appointed by St. Peter to en this be his immediate Successor in the See of Rome, but he modestly declined it and fuffered both Lyons and Cletus to preceed him. For gaining many Converts to Christianity he was banished into Taurica, and there condemned to digMarble in theQuarries; there also by his Preaching and Miracles he Converted many to the Faith; for which he was drowned (with an Anchor about his Neck) in the Euxine Sea. He was the most Ancient of all the Fathers, and his Epistle to the Corintbians allowed to be genuine, which is alike in stile with that to the Hebrews, and therefore that also. was by fome anciently adjudged to him : But Apostolical Constitutions, Canons, &c. that pass under his-Name appear to be of a much later date, He suffered Martyrdom A. D. 100. and his Body notwithstanding the Anchor was (as the Papists report) translated to Rome.

Catharine, Of this Virgin many strange things are reported. fay fhe was Daughter to one King

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102 Feafts, &c. in November.

Costus of Alexandria, and when imprisoned for Christianity Converted to it 50 Philosophers. The Emperor Maxentius sent to dispute her out of it; that being Condemned, and a-

b bout to be racked on a Wheel, an Angel broke it in pieces; and being afterwards Beheaded an Angel carriage ed her Body into Mount Sina; which

forms rather a Symbolical than Hiformical account, meaning by this Catharine the Church of Christ. &c. though

d therine the Church of Christ, &c. though I find no other, or any Saint of this Name.

St. ANDREW, He was Born at Bethfaida, Son of Jonas, and a Disciple of John the Baptift, was the first of all the Apostles that followed our Saviour, and therefore first of all Commemorated in the Church, and because he imparted the joyful news of the Messias's coming to his Brother Peter, his Festival is always attending upon Advent. He is faid to Preach the Gospel in Scytbia, Sogdiano, and Dacia, but (as most relate) principally in Greece; and by the modern Christians there is held to be the first Bishop of Byzantium. He was at last Crucified by Ageas King of Edeffa, rejoycing at the fight of his

his Cross, the happy instrument of his approaching Felicity; and when he was fastned to it, is said to Preached from it to the People several days. He was buried at Patra in Achaia, the place of his Martrydom, A. D. 60. But his Body was afterwards translated to Constantinople, and placed in the Church of the Apostles built by Constantine the Great. There was a Gos spel went under his Name, but rejected as an Imposture. This is the Patron Saint of the Kingdom of Scotland, the Natives whereof honour him upon this day with wearing of a Cross in the form of the Letter X.

for on such he is faid to suffer.

Compression of the Courts, and because its flags the joyful news of the first are to his Pre-

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Of the Feasts, &c. in December.

December bath 31. days.

There are four of those Sundays which precede our Lord's

Nativity, and are called Advent from

the Advent or Coming of our Savia our in the Flesh, for which they call

upon us to prepare, and are thereb fore Instituted by the Church. Maximus Bishop of Taurentium in France,

5 c has an Homily, in Adventu Domini, who flourished A. D. 450.

that when an Infant he constantly obferved Wednesday and Friday's Fast, his
Nurse not being able to make him
fuck till the Evening on those days.
That he privately relieved a noble
Man oppress'd with want, and secretly gave large Portions to his three

to profitute to relieve his Necessity. He was at last Bishop of Mira, and one of the 318, at the Council of

Nice.

Feasts, &c. in December. 105
Nice. 'Tis faid, by his Prayers he calm'd a very dangerous Tempest at Sea, and therefore in the Church of Rome is the Mariners Patron Saint, whom they use to invoke in the like Extremity; though he that truly still'd the raging of the Sea is nearer and better able to relieve them. He dyed about the Year 343.

first of all observed in England, but never since the Reformation: The generality of Papists holding her Conception immaculate or free from

g Original Sin; yet this hath been a
Subject of great Controversie amongst
them, and very warmly disputed in
a particular betwixt the Dominicans

a particular betwixt the Dominicans and Franciscans, and when Arguments were spent Miracles were pretended b on both sides to support their Opini-

ons.

There are two other Feasts not here mentioned of the Virgin Mary, anciently kept and still in the Church of Rome, Her Assumption and Presentation. The former in memory of her being assumed or taken up into the Heaven, after her Dormition or

Death; the latter of her being prefented in the Temple at three years old, old, and then devoted to the Service, of God, for both which there has been a Tradition of some Antiquibastarty. 90 gnis

d Lucy, A Virgin of Syracuse in Sicily, who no sooner Converted to Christianity but distributed all she had to the Poor, which fo incenfed

14 e a young Man that expected her for his Wife, that he accused her of her Religion to the Præfect, for

15 F which she was Martyr'd under Dioclefian, A. D. 303.

16 g O Sapientia. So called from an Antiphony beginning with these Words 17 a used to be sung upon this day.

Ember Wieek, Vide Feb. 21.

20 d

St. THOMAS, Called also Didymus, the one an Hebrew, the other a Greek Word, both of the same fense fignifying a Twin; was one of the Twelve Apostles, who is repor-

ted to Preach the Gospel amongst the Parthians, Medes, and Persians; but chiefly in India, the Christians of which Country call themselves Chriflians of St. Thomas, and the Monu-

ments

23

Feasts, &c. in December. 107

ments and Records of that Church
do ascribe their Conversion wholly
unto him, and that he was put to
Death at Calimnia, by the command
of a King of that Country, being
thrust through with a Dart, and was
there buried. Tis said his Body was
afterwards removed to Edessa, and a
Magnificent Church in honour of him
was there Erected over his Tomb. To

was there Erected over his Tomb. To this City he had fent Thaddew, one of the 70. to cure King Agharus of a dangerous Difease, which the King desired by Letter of our Saviour, and was in answer promised that one of this Disciples should be fent to effect to effect the same of the Disciples should be fent to effect to effect the same of the Disciples should be fent to effect to effect the same of the property of the same of the property of the same of the property of the same of the

a of his Disciples should be sent to effect it after his Ascension. Which History is in Eusebius at large extracted by him (as he professed) out of the Publick Archives of Edessa. Several Books have been ascribed to this Apostle, as his Acts, Gospel and Revelation, all rejected as the Works of Hereticks to corrupt the Faith. He suffered Martyrdom about the year

72.

b CHRISTMAS, This is another of the three great Festivals Instituted in honour of our Saviour's Birth. It was called in the Ancient Church γενεθλία the Nativity, and Θεοφωνία, and ἐπομενία, because as Greg.

Greg. Naz. explains it, impain eto, avorones, dix juniores, by the Birth of Christ God was manifested to Men. It was always observed in the Western Church upon this day, but in the Eastern for some time on the 6th of January, under the name of Epiphany, till they were better instructed as to the time. This Feast is of great Antiquity, mentioned by Theophilus of Casaria, Chrysosom, and other early Fathers of the Church.

St. STEPHEN, He is faid to be one of Gamaliel's Scholars, and Fellow Pupil with St. Paul; he was the first in order of the Seven Deacons, and the first Martyr of the Christian Church, being Stoned by the Jews for afferting Jesus to be the true Messiah, soon after our Saviours Ascenfion.

In the place of his Martyrdom was afterwards built a stately Church by Eudoxia the Empress, and called by the Proto-Martyrs Name: His Body is reported to be buried privately by Gamaliel, and was found 400 years after by St. Stephen's appearing to one Lucian a Priest, and informing himwhere it was laid. And therefore in the Church of Rome they have a.

Ecaft:

Feasts, &c. in December. 109
Feast of his invention, Celebrated the 3d. of August.

27 d St. JOHN, Was Son of Zebedee Brother to James the Great, and the beloved Apostle of our Lord. He Preached the Gospel for the most part in Asia Minor, where after he had long relided at the chief City Epbesus, was sent bound by the Pro-198.1 conful to Rome, as a disturber of the Peace of the Empire; there he miraculously escaped out of the Vessel of Scalding Oyl, and from thence was banished by Domitian into the Isle Patmos, where he wrote his Revelations. Upon the death of that Emperor was released, and returned to Ephefus, and finding Timothy the Bishop of that See dead, took upon himfelf the Government of it. Here he found a young Man he had committed to the special care of a Bishop of those Parts, turn'd Apostate, and become a Captain of Robbers, whom he found out upon the Mountains, re-V LOS converted him and made him a Bishop. Here he wrote his Gospel and three Epistles, but his Gospel last de-\$00.0 fign'd chiefly against Cerintbus, Ebion and fuch like Hereticks that denyed the Divinity of Christ. As for his **Epistles** Tool

4, 5

Epiffles, the first though it wants a Title, was anciently inscribed to the Parthians, and thought to be chiefly levelled against Bajisides that denied our Saviour's Humanity. The two last and the Apocalypse were scrupled at by some in the Primitive Times; but since the 4th Century never questioned in the Church. Several other Writings were father'd on him, but always excluded from the Canon of Holy Writ. He dyed the last of all the Apostles, A. D. 101. His Feast is kept in the Greek Church, June 30.

28 e INNOCENTS, A Feast in
Commemoration of those young Children of Betblem that by the Cruelty
of Herod suffered for our Saviour, before he suffered for them. In which

p general Massacre a Son of Herod's, there at Nurse, was also slain, which gave occasion to Augustus to say, (as Macrobius testifies) that he had rather be Herod's Hog than his Son;

y were forbidden to eat 'em, but his Sons were frequently made away upon lealousies of State.

These three Feasts of St. Stephen's, St. John's, and Innocents, are not set in the order of time on which they fuffered, but placed here as attendants on the high Festival of our Saviours Nativity.

Sylvester, He was by Birth a Roman, and fetch'd from the Mountains of Zouraite, whither he had fled from Persecution, to be Pope. He his accounted the first of all the Bishops of that See that escaped Martyrdom, having the fortune to live in the happy Reign of Constantine the Great, whom some say he Baptized; but Eusebius assumes that honour to himfelf, and relates he did it on his death Bed, the Emperor deferring it till that time, hoping and deligning to be Baptized in Jordan where our Saviour had been before. However 'tis certain this Bishop was in his great efteem; and the Emperor would have honoured him with a Crown of Gold, but he contented himself with a Phrygian Mitre. He Instituted many Orders for the Government of the Church, and procured of the Emperor large Privileges for it. He fat Bishop 24 years, and dyed A. D. 336. And thus the Reader has an account of all the Remarkable days in the Calender throughout the Year.

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A Word or two of the Wakes and I have done.

These are Feasts of particular Parishes, the same with the Encenia of the Ancient Christians, kept in memory and on the day of their Churches, Dedication.

They were called Wakes (as some suppose) from the Vigil preceeding or waking the Night before. In some Places they are called Revels, and very properly now in the worst acceptation of the Word, from a rout or concourse of disorderly People that keep'em as the Papists do their Carnaval, with much Debauchery and Leudness; and therefore in many Places are discountenanced and laid aside; and unless the abuses were reform'd they might well be universally suppressed.

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leagh, &c. in December.

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